

Happy Holidays

1998

This was a big year. Not only was it the big Five-0 year, but travels took me all over the country and beyond. Our adventures this year were so extensive that we have created longer letter...complete with a picture of Roger Pyes.



Photo by Will Counts



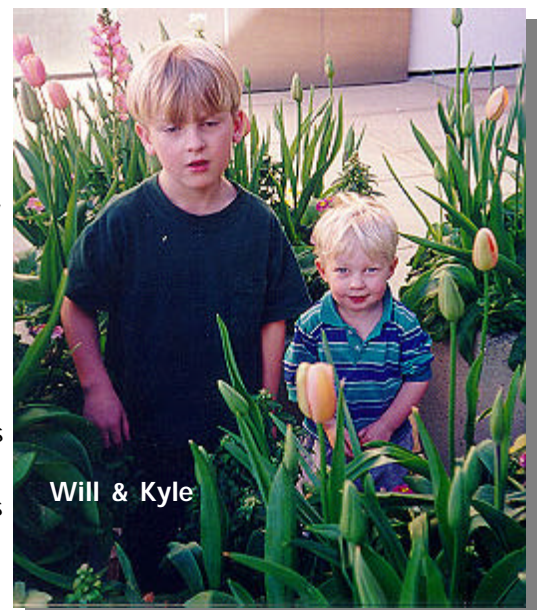
I always start out with a picture of my students at Indiana University. This year's group was a great bunch of men and women. I will miss those going off to internships and I will enjoy those who stay.

This year's picture was taken by Will Counts, a participant in the Adult Fitness Program and an IU Emeritus Professor in Journalism. Is it obvious that his expertise is in photography? He does take a great picture. Thanks Will.



My year began with a drive to California for a sabbatical at Stanford University. Actually, we left in mid-December so that we could be in LA to have Christmas with my Mother. Spent New Years with my best friends, Cathy & Bill Kenny and Roger, in San Diego. Then I went up to Woodside to join the Larsen Family, Cousin Denise, Don and Will (6 years old) & Kyle (3 years old). They graciously let me (and the dogs) "break-in" their new studio apartment above the garage...in the Redwoods...atop the Santa Clara Mountains. Paradise, any day, except for El Nino.

I enjoyed my stay with Denise et al, and would do it again in a flash. Will and I played lots of soccer, read books, practiced spelling, and explored homework assignments...while Kyle shared his toiletry accomplishments. Actually, playing with both boys was a great time. And, wow, is Don a great chief! I looked forward to his weekend cuisine.



Will & Kyle

El Nino decided to join us in California. I don't think it stopped raining in Northern California for the first month I was there. But, once it did, Roger flew up from San Diego and we spent a great weekend in Carmel.



Roger, in Carmel.

In March, I was able to rendezvous with Cousin Diane, Bob and Cammie at a restaurant in Reading. Also spent a few days on the Junction City river-front estate of Aunt Pat and Uncle Dick. Dogs loved the land...even though it rained every day we were there, too.

In April, I returned to LA to have Easter with my Mother. I also got to see Marie Hegwer-diVito and Mercedes Morehead-Smith, fellow San Gabriel High School graduates. Visited Mercedes & Joe's Palmdale estate. Marie and I spent the day taking pictures of the LA beaches...after the destruction of El Nino.

Patsy Dougherty, from community college days at Mt Sac, was another good friend I got to see. It was good to stomp around Southern California once more. Got to go to Patsy's dad's 80th birthday party. He remembered me from the 60's! I was also able to visit fellow Penn State graduates Keith & Sue Williams in Davis.

San Diego was the last stop before heading back to Bloomington. Timing was right to help Fred Kasch celebrate his 85th birthday. Cathy traveled back to Bloomington with us with the promise of experiencing the Kentucky Derby. After watching Cathy learn the betting system, I won \$56 on Real Quiet.



In front of the MeeJaw Clinic, Taipei, Taiwan

In February, I got the opportunity to go to Taiwan for the American College of Sports Medicine. Since LeeHwa Chen, one of my doctoral students from IU, was collecting data for her dissertation in Taipei, I got to see her too. She gave me a tour of Taipei that put "Hoosier Hospitality" to shame. She and her family are doing well and it was a pleasure to see her in her own country. One exciting event of the trip was having dinner with Chi Cheng, a woman (one time Olympian & world record holder) who I used to compete against in 50 meter hurdles30 years ago!

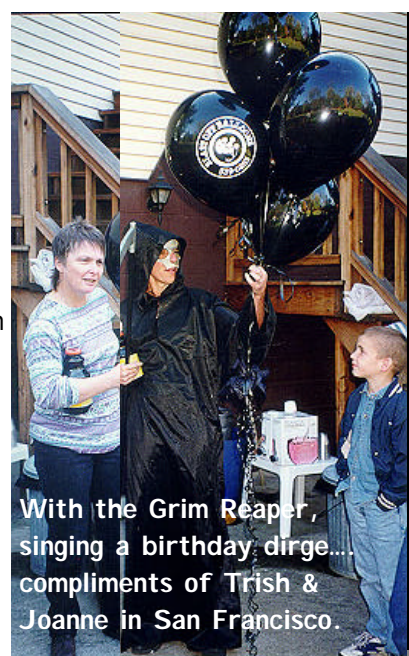
Oh yes, I did go to California to work. My sabbatical was to study Managed Health Care. After all, where else is Health Care more managed than California? I'll tell you what I learned once Managed Care figures it out.

Yes, the dogs did make the

whole 12,000 mile trip with me, except to Taiwan. They got to go to the doggy-spa, California style, while I was in Taiwan. Denise and Don invited the dogs to share the studio apartment too. You can tell I came from a dog-friendly family. Flick & Totem experienced the dog restrictions & curfews of Southern California, the dog-friendly parks of Northern California, the doggy-spa life, and a dog show and field trial with the friendly Vizsla people in the Vizsla Club of Northern California. We even found a field trainer to work with... as long as the fields were not flooded. After the whole experience, both Flick and Totem decided the mid-west offered more exciting opportunities for a dog.



Yes, I had the big Five-0 party this year. Decided to give myself a party...probably a control issue. The party was in my favorite place, my backyard. Dog friends, work friends, family, students, and just friends were invited to enjoy the expanse of the yard by sitting in the Gazebo, playing volleyball or sitting around the fire pit. And almost everyone came! Lou from Georgia. Paul, Shirley and Marylee from Ohio. Almost all of the McCullough families. Tom, Patty & Ian from Tennessee. Peggy & Dave, Leah & Matt, Debbie & Jim, and of course, Aunt Grace & Uncle Cal, all representing Michigan. Uncle Cal's Coney Dogs were a hit. All of the 75 Coney's he cooked were consumed! In all, it was a great day.



With the Grim Reaper, singing a birthday dirge... compliments of Trish & Joanne in San Francisco.



Totem, winning at 11 years old.

There were not too many dog activities this year. The objective for the year was to train Flick into an adult bird dog. We did go to a couple of Vizsla Specialties to see old friends. At those specialties Totem won Best in Veteran Sweepstakes at the St. Louis Specialty and Flick won First Field Trial Dog at the Cleveland, Miami Valley and St Louis Specialties.

Flick went to bird-dog camp for five weeks in July and August. It was his first time at camp by himself. Totem missed him. We found a great trainer, Steve, in Bowling Green, Ohio. It was well worth the trip because on his first try at Gun Dog competition he did so well he received an Award of Merit, quite a distinction for such a young dog. He has become a fun dog to compete with as well as hunt.

Hope your holiday will be a great one... .jp