

February, 2008

Dear Family & Friends

Well, here it is - our annual letter that was to be out before Christmas, then out before New Years, but as you can see at least I made it out before Valentines Day. So, to be timely let me start this letter with a warm Happy Valentines day to you all.



2007 was a year of big changes for us. After commuting south to Jackson for the last 3 years we have moved our home completely and now commute to Portland regularly (ha ha). So, let me give you more details:

In January, we started our move to Jackson. We listed the house, and over the next two months we also listed many rooms of furniture and items on Craig's List, and on E-bay. By mid March our Oregon house was empty - either sold, given away, or loaded onto a truck and we were rolling down I-5. As we unpacked the truck in Jackson it became obvious we could have gotten rid of more, but life goes on.

We have integrated into full time CA residence but our travel really hasn't subsided much. While we were in Nashville for a Luis Palau Festival, we had an offer on our house. By the following Tuesday we had closed and the funds were deposited in our bank. Both Pat and I have made trips to Boston this year, I have made additional trips including several to Portland for pastors workshops; to Chicago/FortWayne to visit family; and to San Diego for a conference and a visit with Matt, Amy and our Grand Kids. An additional benefit of being in Jackson is the we have been able to meet with Marshall and Joyce for several week-ends including a trip to Fort Brag (The Skunk Train) and to Mount Herman for week-end Music retreats and time away.

Pat has integrated very well and looks for time to lay back and enjoy the back yard. She was thinking about a part time day shift nursing position and found a full time position with the local hospital directing two of their clinics (pediatric and family). On Monday evenings she has joined the Amador Community Band playing 1st clarinet. Pat also participates at church playing the piano for specials and some evening services.

Carl has been focusing on developing his Shepherds Assistant ministry. He has been preaching for several pastors in the county and at the local youth prison. During the week, he meets with several pastors regularly. You can see the ministry progress at his ministry web site: <http://csimonsen.org>. When not working towards ministry or trips, Carl has been working on projects. He has done a total garage make over and built a garden storage shed from scratch (It was a cadillac).

What a blessing we had with visitors this year. My brothers came in March for a 4 day week-end including a brief stop in San Francisco. In April my mother and Aunt Toni came for a 2 week trip and we had a great time together. Throughout the year Marshall & Joyce came up for week-ends and our special trips. The year ended with a 2 week visit from Paul and Becca for the Christmas Holidays. Last, but not least we had regular visits with Katie, Maddy, and Nate (with Matt and Amy too).

We hope to see all of you this coming year, if you are thinking of being in the Sacramento area, please give us a call. We pray that each of you will have a blessed new year.

*All our love,
Carl & Pat*





October, 2007

Fort Bragg, CA

What a HAT!



Watch out for the guy behind my shoulder



A Groupee & the King



Marshall & Joyce

The New Blues Brothers



Nashville, TN

May, 2007

