



### 01/09 & 12/01 - Height of Winter (2" of snow for a few hours)

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Open House was a big success & included Kali, Jason's **girlfriend**, from Champaign, then to Tacoma for a nice visit with **Grandma M**. Jason & Kali left for USC a day before our day of **snow**. January found us taking Spanish from Americorp student Brittany, teaching for no **dough**. Our College Search Consultants business (see [www.BestFitColleges.com](http://www.BestFitColleges.com)) is **growing**, due some to our participation in successful Trade **Showing**.

February we were happy to have a visit from Tom and Nancy Hoff, long-lost distant **cousins**. Relatives, we now find we have by the **dozens**. Dorothy & Denny and G&G T showed up for the **Langley Mystery Weekend**, and Denny suspected the correct murderers, again it was a lot of **fun**. Clyde has helped with the **Island Coffee House** (ICH), run by **teens**, & as a volunteer is now a trained barista & can run espresso **machines**.

Jason is now 21 & senior member & webmaster (see [www.USCRO.com](http://www.USCRO.com)) of a cappella group **R.O.**, each year working on a CD & towards **ICCA goals**. In March they came in 2<sup>nd</sup> in their Division & won the semifinals to compete in finals of West **Region**, cousin Cori & Peter joined us for the **competition**. While visiting Stanford we saw Cori & Peter's San Francisco **home**, 10 Bay area colleges, & neighbor Valerie in Santa Clara softball while we **roamed**. We returned in time for NCAA Women's Basketball first **round**, at the UW & watched with Marcia & Dick the team that was champion **bound**.

Big Brother/Big Sister bowling fund raiser with Bruce & Marilyn was **fun**, & a beauty session for neighbor's dog Zoe is what Marcia's long hair **won**. We've continued tutoring at several schools so during Spring **break**, we visited 15 Oregon colleges, at famous Powell's bookstore we had to **partake**. At a tournament in Portland, saw Valerie play softball **again**, then spent some time with Aunt Emy & Uncle Frank and more cousins **again**. Another set of cousins came to Whidbey to visit, Ken & Sue **Templeton**, they lucked out & came during Langley's Arts & Crafts fair, **Coochokam**.

Clyde keeps volunteering & Marcia too, for ICH an MS Money to QuickBooks **replace** & for **South Whidbey Commons** learning about nonprofit **ebase**. Tutoring in math or reading at Bayview, SWH-, LM-, SWP-, SWI-**schools**; & giving more college planning sessions for community & Bayview **school**.

Visited J for 19 days in LA: **SigGraph Conference** with Kali & her mom, **Vicky**; 16 schools with **WACAC Counselor Institute** plus 10 schools was **tricky**. Not all that much time spent with J, but did go to famous Troubadour for **SaraB concert**, ate at many J & Kali favorite places, often too full for **dessert**. While away Marcia's 94 yr old Aunt Aleatha decided to leave in her **sleep**, we returned before the funeral, a chance to share the memories we'll **keep**.

Back at home we occasionally go off island for different events, which neighbors Bruce & **Marilyn** or Marcia & Dick in Tacoma come join us to **attend**. Into Seattle for Auntie M's jazz concert, & for vocalist, **Jill Cohn**, brought Americorp Brittany, & in the **new library** & a **travel bookstore** we did **roam**. Dorothy & Denny came for a hike; sister Charmaine & sons Nathan & **Aiden**, for lowtide with Zoe, county fair, movie, & foosball finally visited our **island**. J teases us about events we attend on **Whidbey**: art fairs & studio, B&B, historic home, garden, & winery tours, Festivals of Lavender & Loganberry.

At a client's place in Whistler we spent a week hiking, biking, shopping, & **eating**, joined by Bruce & Marilyn, then G&G T & Shell, wonderful **meetings**. Our neighborhood is coming together for picnics & **dinners**, we've taken First Aid & disaster recovery courses so our neighborhood can be **winners**. Our minivan we brought with us from New Jersey will not last **long**, & Clyde's Prius will be awhile, so a fuel efficient new **Scion xB** to Marcia **belongs**. We've dropped in to visit Grandma M, when we haven't been **far**, helping fix up her house, shopping for carpet, & to let her check out our new **car**.

J's in his "1st" senior year at USC, 1 more to go after **switching**, Comp. Sci. to Vocal Performance & minor Multimedia to Recording, how **enriching**. Since Heather Kennedy made her documentary about **R.O.** (see [www.RockandRO.com](http://www.RockandRO.com)), J's group has had some amazing experiences & **shows**. Featured at the Indie (Independent) Producers Gala, R.O. **performed**, & for Dan Lund's premier of "Dream on Silly Dreamer" 3 songs **were sung**. Reverse Osmosis also sings at other events like a party in Palm **Springs**, when Arnold sold his Malibu home, for the Open House they got to **sing**. J was in a Vocal Jazz Ensemble class, they became a club named **creSCendo**, so they got travel money & competed in the **Jazz Festival** in **Reno**. J has also been practicing with Paul Turner's Big Band for over a **year**, still no live performances but release of demo CD & J's 2 solos may be **near**. J has had the same work-study job for the last 2 **years**, redesigning & maintaining USC's **Recreational Sports** website, good practice for some **careers**. Jason was home for a short, event-filled break at **Thanksgiving**, but will be back soon for a longer winter break & hopefully a little more relaxed **living**.

We pray this year will bring a healthier planet, restored freedom and **rights**, less greed in this world, so fewer need find reasons to **fight**.

**We wish for all Happy Holidays & time with those you hold dear & hopefully a peaceful New Year!**

*Love, Clyde, Marcia, & Jason Monma*

P.S. To all who receive this you are cordially invited to **attend**, our 3<sup>rd</sup> New Year's Day Open House 1-7pm & are welcome to bring family & **friends**.



### 09/10 – End of Summer (another amazing sunset)