

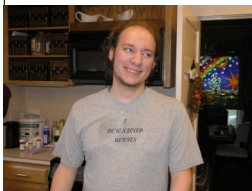
THE KAVANAGH GAZETTE

Volume 14

December 2007

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Welcome to the 2007 edition of *The Kavanagh Gazette*. The purpose of this newsletter is to give you an update on the family out here in Oregon. This is really important since a good portion of the family is on the east coast.



Richard



Emily & Matt



Teresa & Erik



DOG FOSTERING 101

This past year brought 2 more foster dogs to 865 D Street. To date the Kavanagh's have not failed Foster 101. The definition of failure means adopting the foster dog. However that does not mean they miss their fosters.

Soon after the holidays Golden Bond called to take in a Foster named Sunny. She had just been spade when the family took her in. Cinnamon was very patient with her, even though she wanted to play SOOO much.

Sunny was only at D Street for about 2 weeks, as she was quickly adopted by a family in Ridgefield, WA. The Kavanagh's took both dogs up to see Sunny's new place. A beautiful piece of property of 5 acres with a pond. They also had a another golden retriever for Sunny to play with.

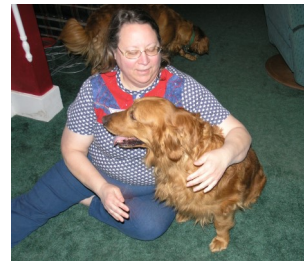
Then June was the next call from GB. GB called the Kavanagh's several times to take in Bailey. She is a blond GR but had serious aggression issues with other dogs. That made the K's wary of taking Bailey in. After some persuasion, They drove to meet Bailey with Cinnamon with the family that was surrendering Bailey.

It was very tough, Bailey did have aggression issues. We took Bailey on anyway as GB was having a hard time finding a proper foster home.

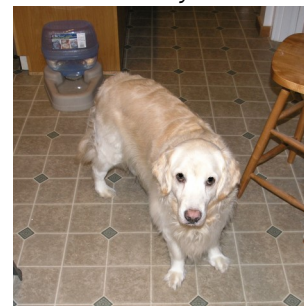
The K's worked with Bailey, and had to call for suggestions and help many times. But after 2 weeks, the aggression between Bailey and Cinnamon calmed down. Cinnamon learned how to approach her, and Bailey slowly learned that Cinnamon was not a threat.

It took 8 weeks before GB found a potential adoptive family. A great family from La Center, WA. They have 2 kids, no dog. We demanded the no other dog, but did not know about kids. The K's did a home visit with the family and Bailey. Bailey seemed to fit well She even matched their carpet color (good thing as she sheds a lot). The family then came to the GB picnic to pick her up. The family did learn of Bailey's continued Aggression towards unknown dogs, which was good. But it is believed that Bailey will continue to improve as the family grows with her.

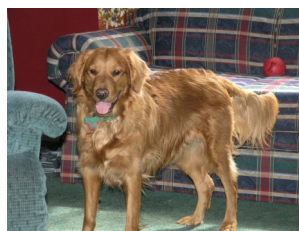
After Bailey, the K's decided to take a break for a while, especially with Mrs. K's. back issues. But, they will probably take in another foster in early 2008.



Sunny



Bailey



Cinnamon

FLOOD '06

As reported in our last issue, the basement flooded during Christmas time in 2006. This was due to a collapse of the main sewer pipe from the house to the street. It was not fixed until late January.

There were 2 issues, our line was broken, and our connection to the city sewer was incorrect which was a city problem. It took several days to repair.

The good thing is the basement has been dry ever since, even after the horrible wind/rain storm that occurred the first weekend of December of this year.

KID HAPPENINGS

Teresa & Erik: Teresa continues to work at the new Petco in Keizer. Petco has promoted her to a managerial position which she seems to be doing well at. Pet wise this has been a bad year with Ferrets passing, but she continues to adopt more ferrets

Emily & Matt: Emily quit her job at the bowling alley so she could go to school fulltime at

Chemeketa Community College. This is a wise move in the long term. She has also obtained her Learner's permit fo driving. Maybe a license is in store for 2008??

Richard: Richard also quit his job as a baker at Big Town Hero so he can concentrate on getting a degree. He is currently going to Chemeketa, but hopes to transfer to Western Oregon University in

2008. WOU is a state school in Monmouth OR, just 15 miles from Salem. For Christmas, Richard will be in Arizona with his girlfriend's family.

CHRISTMAS 2007 ON THE ROAD

This will only be the 2nd time in 20 years that Mark & Cyn will not be home for Christmas.

Mark's Mom is flying into Portland from NY before Christmas. Then right after Mid-night Christmas Eve Service, Mark, Cyn, Josephine and the dog will hop in the RV to start heading to Las Vegas!

In LV they will meet up with Neil & Kelsey with Baby Brooklyn! Mark & Cyn will stay a few days, then drive back north home. Josephine will fly home from Las Vegas.



The 2006 Christmas tree

TRIPS 2007

There were three trips for Mark and Cyn in 2007.

The first trip, in February, was a short weekend trip to Las Vegas to visit Neil, Kelsey & Brooklyn. They went as part of a "Buy our timeshare" deal, but said no to that.

The 2nd trip was to Dayton, OH for a mini-family reunion with the Rhodes family in March. Cyn's sister and two brothers both came for Martha & Russ's 50th wedding anniversary. They met up with several of their cousins as well.

Mark was happy as he got to see the Electric Trolley Bus system in Dayton, & did a quick trip up to Cleveland for the Metro/Light Rail system there.

August was the next trip. It almost didn't happen due to Cyn's severe back issues. But it went on as planned. Cyn &



Reunion trip: Pictured: George, Becky, Martha, Cara & Cyn

Mark both flew to Atlanta together. Then Cyn flew on to Jacksonville to visit her sister. Mark flew back to St. Louis to be part of a Electric Railroaders Convention. St. Louis has a Light Rail system to railfan. From St. Louis he visited the Old Threshers Reunion in Mt. Pleasant Iowa. Then rode down to Memphis, TN to ride the Trolley system there. Finally it

was on to Little Rock, Arkansas to ride its new trolley line. From Little Rock, he flew to Jacksonville to meet up with Cyn.

They both did a daytrip down to Cocoa Beach, FL to visit Mark's Aunt Helen & Uncle Harry. This trip was fun for both parties. Cyn got to get some rest and Mark some railfanning.

The flight home was bad as Cyn's back was getting worse. But that is another story in this newsletter.

MARK'S WANDERINGS

Mark is still working for ASM. The product he is teamed with is in a ramp. However ASM as a whole is not doing great (nor is any semiconductor company in the US). There was a layoff which Mark was spared, but his position is not the most secure. It looks like he may be taking on some more projects that may require Taiwan support. We'll see how it goes.

On a lighter note, Mark found a new hobby, Geocaching. It is basically a high tech treasure hunt. In a nutshell, it is using billion dollar government satellites to find Tupperware in the woods.

You use a GPS, download coordinates of "caches" that people hide from a website,

then go find them. Sometimes they are large, sometimes they are tiny. They can be in urban or forested areas (They are everywhere!). You sign a log then go back to the website to state you found it. This has not



The St. Louis Gateway Arch as seen from a Metrolink station

replaced railroads as a hobby, but is getting Mark to go outdoors more frequently!

As far as other items, Mark is still part of the St. Paul's Trinity Choir & is helping making arrangements for their trip to Washington, DC in Feb. 2008. He also put together and hosted the OERHS (Trolley Museum) annual banquet, including putting together the main program. Lastly he grew a mustache for the first time!!

CYN'S ROAMINGS

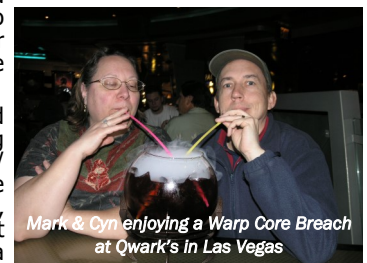
Cyn has had a rough year. She started having knee issues. Then she woke up one morning in August to severe back pain and her left side went numb. She took an ambulance to the hospital. The ER didn't really find anything and sent her home with pain killers and muscle relaxants.

Further diagnostics via MRI's and X-rays showed she had a slipped disk, plus an unrelated issue with one of her knees (her other knee was numb which was related to her back).

She went into surgery in October. They replaced a disk

and fused two bones. She was in the hospital for 3 days. Her neurosurgeon has been very pleased with her quick recovery. Her one knee is no longer numb and she is getting around with a lot less pain. She continues to improve with a final visit with her doctor scheduled just before Christmas.

On a lighter note, she worked hard this year on converting Emily's old room to her sewing/spare room. She insulated the walls. New paint and wallpaper, including the ceiling. The closet was heavily modified such that a desk now looks nearly built-in.



Mark & Cyn enjoying a Warp Core Breach at Qwark's in Las Vegas

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