

THE KAVANAGH GAZETTE

Volume 16

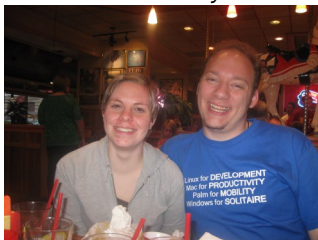
December 2009

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Welcome to the 2009 edition of *The Kavanagh Gazette*. The purpose of this newsletter is to give you an update on the family out here in Oregon.



Matt & Emily



Ellen & Richard



Erik & Teresa



Cinnamon



Mark & Cyn with Tigger

MARK & CYN CELEBRATE 20 YEARS

March 2009 was the Kavanagh's 20th Wedding Anniversary. They spent it in Europe!!

They flew from Portland non-stop to Amsterdam flying business class (frequent flyer tickets). From their seat they saw the Northern Lights from the south side of the airplane!

One day was spent in Amsterdam staying at the Hotel Victoria by Centraal Station (For free). A fantastic meal at their favorite restaurant, the Pancake Bakery, near the Anne Frank House. Mmm

Day 2 was spent riding the Thalys high speed train to Paris. Mark clocked the speed of 186 MPH on his GPS when the train hit France. But the ride was smooth as silk. They checked into the Radisson in Paris 12th ward near Line 9 of the Metro, and went to the Louvre for the afternoon.

Day 3, the actual anniversary, was spent at Paris Disneyland. A lot of fun was found there, especially the Tower of Terror at Disney Studios!! Then a great

German meal and beer in Disney Village.

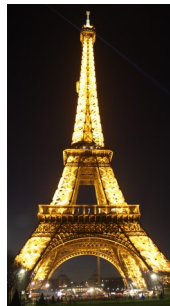
Day 4 was touring around Paris, including the Eiffel Tower and eating at a great steak house called Hippopotamus (Cyn's favorite animal) at Bastille Circle.

Day 5 they boarded the Eurostar train for London for the day. Fish & Chips and beer for lunch, and the London Transport Museum.

Day 6 was the last day in Paris, changing hotels to the Hilton at the Airport (Free)

Day 7 flew home First Class, Paris to Amsterdam, then Business class Amsterdam to Portland.

This trip was a great way to celebrate 20 years!



Left: Eiffel Tower

Right: Paris Disneyland



2009 KID HAPPENINGS

The good thing is no major changes for the Kavanagh adult children in 2009!

Richard and Ellen are still together. Both are attending Western Oregon Univ. in Monmouth, they live near campus. In addition, Richard is working for WOU in their IT group. There is a chance he might get a full time IT position in the near future. If so he may delay graduation by a year or so.

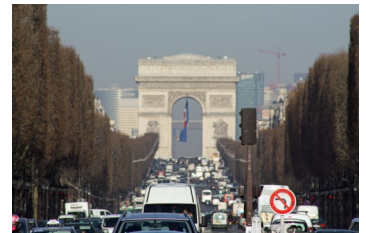
Emily and Matt also attending WOU and are living

near WOU in Monmouth. Matt continues to work for Borders in Salem & Emily at WOU on the Student Help Desk.

Teresa and Erik still live in West Salem with Teresa working at Petco in Keizer. She is trained to do nearly every position at Petco from cashier to Dog Trainer. The only thing she is not certified for is Dog Grooming.



Canals of Amsterdam



Arc De Triomphe



Sacre Coeur

CYN'S GOINGS-ON

Cynthia is working very hard on her fused glasswork via Chemeketa Community College. You can see some of her work on Facebook on Mark's page.

She continues to swim/work out everyday, but her venue has changed. She now goes to the Kroc Center. This is a brand new Community center in Salem built and run by the Salvation Army via grants from the Kroc Foundation (of McDonald's fame). It has full pool and workout center with classes!

Health wise, she is doing well. Her back is much better. Her knees not as much.



Disneyland Castle



Red Rocks of Sedona



Grand Canyon



Nikki, both photos from August '09

Above: GBR Picnic

Left: In the car with Cinnamon



KAVANAGH FAMILY

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Mark: subwaymark@gmail.com

Cynthia: lucyndamoonwind@gmail.com

Emily: mistress.innocence@gmail.com

Richard: woolywumpus@gmail.com

Teresa & Erik: merChyld@comcast.net

HOME ADDRESS:

865 D STREET NE

SALEM, OR 97301

PHONE: 503-399-7508

FAMILY & TRANSIT WEBSITE

<http://ktransit.com>

MARK'S FACEBOOK PAGE

<http://www.facebook.com/subwaymark>

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA 2009

In addition to the 20th Anniversary trip in 2009, the Kavanagh's had two other significant trips to take advantage of Mark's forced vacations.

In June, they loaded up the dogs (Cinnamon and Nikki) into the RV and drove to Southern California. The goal, Disneyland for Cyn's Birthday.

On the way to SoCal, our RV had 2 issues. It would not start after stopping at a rest area near Cottonwood, CA. It took 90 minutes before the engine would stay running in the 100+ degree heat. We think bad gas was involved as the generator also died. Everything was fine the next day until going through the Grapevine on I-5. The RV crested the major hill with no issue, but just they started to head downhill toward LA, the motor stalled. It took another 40 minutes before the motor would stay running. The thought is altitude/heat and possibly remnants of bad

gas was still involved. We didn't have another problem the rest of the trip.

The first day at Disney was Cyn's Birthday, so she got in free (actually they took the 1 day as a \$60 "gift card" & used a 2 day pass instead). She was given a big "It's my Birthday" badge with her name on it. Everywhere in Disney they went cast members would tell her "Happy Birthday Cynthia". She loved every second of it! Meanwhile Cinnamon and Nikki spent the day at the Disney Kennel Club. Cyn & Mark ate at the Blue Bayou restaurant for "Linner" situated along the Pirates of the Caribbean ride.

The evening at the RV Park, just 1 mile from the Disney, they watched the beautiful Disney fireworks displays. However, Cinnamon hated them. She was shaking like a leaf under the table. Nikki crawled under the table with her to console her. Nikki didn't mind the booming sounds, but

was concerned for her sister. It was very sweet!

Day 2 was spent at California Adventure, for the Tower of Terror. It was neat being at 2 Disney Parks on 2 different continents in the same year and comparing them!!

The following day was spent down in San Diego, mostly for Mark to ride the San Diego Light Rail/Trolley. After SD, it was time to head back north to home, stopping at the Jelly belly Factory on the way home! Another fun trip for 2009!

ARIZONA TRIP 2009

The next forced vacation trip for 2009 was to Arizona for Labor Day weekend.

Cynthia's favorite Author, Terry Pratchett was attending the First North American Discworld Convention in Tempe, AZ. They flew down to Phoenix to attend this convention filled with people dressing up as characters of Pratchett's Discworld series of novels. It was cool to attend the seminars, and see the costumes.

After the convention they drove north to Sedona, AZ. They took a Pink Jeep tour to see ancient Indian cliff dwellings. It was awesome to see the famous Red Rocks and ruins.

After spending the night in Sedona, they continued to drive north to the Grand Canyon, spending part of the day at this magnificent "ditch" before having to drive back down to Phoenix.

Mark worked out of the ASM Phoenix office for the rest of week, with Cyn at the hotel. That Friday they took a daytrip down to Tucson to ride the trolley there and have a great Italian meal. Then it was homeward bound.

MARK'S WIERDNESS

Business travel for Mark in 2009 was way down from 2008. Only 4~5 trips to Arizona. The only other trip was an unexpected, last minute, trip to Austria in October. It was a short trip lasting under a week. But at least there was one day available to explore Vienna!

Work has been stressful. There have been a couple of layoffs, including one that dropped the company's personnel by 34%. There is more expected out of everyone, and there was a full re-structure of the company. One of these days Mark would like to get out of Semiconductor.

Personal front, he is still the President of the Salem Area Geocachers Association, his geocache find are 1200+ from all over the world.

Mark remains the board member and webmaster for the Trolley Museum (Oregon Electric Railway Museum). He is also still a Tenor at his church choir, as well as working on the travel plans for the choir to be in Boston in October 2010 BUSY!!

HAPPINESS/SADNESS

In November 2008, Mark and Cynthia took in Nikita from Golden Bond Rescue as a foster. She turned out to be their foster failure, when they adopted this sweet 8 year old dog in January. She blended so well with Cinnamon, and showed her love to everyone. She started as a sad dog, but was becoming happier every day and learned to love car rides and playing with Cinnamon.

Then suddenly, in mid-October, she woke up before 5am breathing funny. Mark & Cyn woke up to figure out what was wrong. By 5:15am she stopped breathing. They rushed her to the Emergency Vet, but she was gone. Possibly an undetectable cancer clot broke loose. She had been happy and playful the day before. She is very much missed by Cinnamon, Mark and Cyn. At least they know Nikki is waiting for them along with Flame at the Rainbow bridge.