

THE KAVANAGH GAZETTE

Volume 18

December 2011

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Welcome to the 2011 edition of *The Kavanagh Gazette*. The purpose of this newsletter is to give you an update on the family out here in Oregon.

MASTER BEDROOM DONE

After 5 years of not sleeping in the official Master Bedroom, Mark and Cyn moved back into the space in November of this year. They had moved out of the room when Richard moved out, so that they would be able to renovate the room.

The new space is nothing like the old room. The walls and ceiling were pulled down. The 22 x 13 room was reduced to approx. 13x13. This allows for a future master bath/walk-in closet plus a hallway to the new bedroom from the upstairs foyer.

Mark & Cyn did all the work. Ripping down the walls. Framing of the new walls and doorways. All new electrical service with an abundance of outlets added. The walls and ceiling was insulated, which this room had none originally. Sheetrock was installed on the walls and ceiling. Wood work was added to the walls for a wainscoting

look, as well as on the ceiling for a unique grid look. The room was painted and a ceiling fan hung. New floor underlayment was added due to poor flooring to begin with. Later, as funds permit carpeting will be laid. Doors, original to the house, were hand framed and hung.

The future master bath is now just a huge walk-in closet. Rough-in plumbing is not a job Mark & Cyn can tackle, and funds don't allow it either.

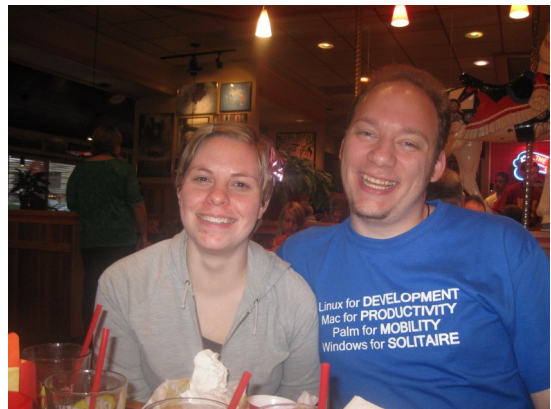
However, the bedroom is fully functional and is very comfortable. It is 100 times better then it used to be.

A WEDDING IS COMING!

Richard Kavanagh, the youngest of the family is getting married! His bride to be is Ellen Brubaker. They met a few years ago while going to Chemeketa Community College. Later they both transferred to Western Oregon University and currently live in Monmouth.

Ellen parents permanent home is at Top-of-the-World, Arizona (about 70 miles east of Phoenix), but currently live in Alaska as her Dad is the project engineer for a new bridge for the Alaska Railroad.

The service and reception will take place at the Boyce Thompson Arboretum in Superior, AZ, about 50~60 miles east of Phoenix on Hwy 60. It will take place in the early evening on Saturday May 26, 2012. The two families are excited for the happy couple!



The Happy Couple



The left photo is looking at the back of the new master bedroom just before we laid down a temporary carpet and finished painting the baseboard. The windows are new that were professionally installed about 2 years ago. Everything else you see, including the walls and ceiling are also new, but were installed by Cynthia and Mark.

The right photo shows the new interior wall added with 2 new doorways. The right door is the entrance to the room from a new hallway. The left door is for the future master bathroom/walk-in closet. Both doors are original doors from this house. The bathroom door will get a privacy window. It was the original door to the sleeping porch, which was later incorporated into the oversized master bedroom.



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CYN'S GOINGS-ON

Cyn's main focus this past year was to get the master bedroom done, and happily it is! The next minor project to do is to freshen up Richard's old room so Mark can move his office into it. The next major project is most likely working on what is now Mark's office and turning it into a guest room. It needs a bit of work, removing wallpaper and putting up a new ceiling.

Another highlight for 2011 was the visit from her sister, Cara, in January. It was fun having east coast family visit, as it does not happen often.

Cyn's major accomplishment for 2011 is officially becoming an artist. One of her fused glasswork pieces sold at the student art show. The school's President was the buyer!!

MARK'S WIERDNESS

Mark remains working for ASM. Travel severely dropped off this year with no trips from April thru December, Mark misses them. This is due to a project Mark was given that consumed him. That project is coming to a close in January 2012, and he will be moved to a different higher level position soon after.

Outside of work, he continues to be part of the choir at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, remains a board member of the local Trolley Museum. His geocaching hobby continues, but has falling off a bit.

2011 KID HAPPENINGS

There were definite ups and downs for the kids this year.

Teresa remains working full time at Petco and is one of the Dog Trainers. She also got a "new" car. The car was Mark's, but Richard has been using it for six years. Teresa bought the car at a very good price. Her husband Erik became a state certified message therapist and is working at Message Envy. He is quickly building his own clients!

Emily has had a very hard year. She and Matt got a divorce in the later summer. She moved in to a different apartment with a room-mate in Monmouth, and is now looking for her own place. The good news is she now has a Drivers License, and her Dad made good on an apparently no expiration promise that he would get her first beater car. So now she owns a late model Ford Escort Wagon, called Cupcake.

She continues to go to school at Western Oregon University (WOU), as well as work for the University at their help desk.

Richard, as noted in another article, is getting married in 2012. He proposed to Ellen this past year. In May he graduated from WOU with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Computer Science & Mathematics. He is a member of Pi Mu Epsilon, the National Mathematical Honors Society. Although he currently is not going to school, he does work full time in the University's IT department.



The extended family having dinner at Gustav's Bier Stube in Clackamas OR after Richard's Graduation from WOU in June. Working from front to back

- Ben Johnson: Richard's longtime best friend
- Heidi Brubaker: Richard's future mother-in law
- Neil Kavanagh: Mark's Brother
- Brooklyn Kavanagh: Mark's Nephew
- Kelsey Kavanagh: Mark's Sister-in-law
- Emily Kavanagh
- Jacob Brubaker: Ellen's brother
- Ellen Brubaker: Richard's Fiancé
- Richard Kavanagh
- Cynthia Kavanagh
- Teresa Gurule-Long
- Ernie Sawyer: Teresa's Friend
- Behind the Camera: Mark

PETS 2011

Cinnamon and Rusty continue to get along and are best friend. Rusty claimed the new master bedroom first though. Ashes, our 19 year old cat sadly had to be put down. Her Kidneys were failing. It took 17 years for her to actually become a cat, she will be missed, especially by Cynthia



CHICAGO/ FLORIDA 2011

Vacation this year started Labor-day weekend. Mark & Cyn flew to Chicago, then Cyn flew onto Jacksonville to visit her sister and brothers there.

Mark stayed in Chicago to participate in the Electric Railroader's Convention in the Windy City. It involved riding the South Shore Interurban to Gary, Indiana, a bus trip to ride the trolley line in Kenosha as well as visits to the following trolley museums: Easy Troy Trolley museum in Wisconsin, Illinois Railway Museum in Union, and the Fox River Trolley Museum in South Elgin. The convention ended with a charter CTA "L" Train traveling the over various sections of the Chicago 'L'.

After the convention, Mark flew to Jacksonville to meet up with Cyn. It was Cyn's sister's birthday. We all met for dinner including both of Cyn's brothers.

Two days later they drove down to Orlando for a few days to visit Universal Studios Parks, and 2 Disney Parks. We had an awesome time & loved Hogsmead/Hogwarts!

We highly recommend Capone's Dinner Show in Kissimmee, great food, entertainment, and if booked on the internet, a great price. Don't miss it.

The theme parks were tiring yet fun, but our next stop was a night in Tampa to ride the TECO Streetcar. Mark got a tour of their barns, and visited friend from the ERA Chicago Trip who was the Manager of TECO at one time. Had a great evening in Ybor City. The next day we flew home from Tampa to Portland.

