

News from Nan

HIGHLIGHTS

HIGHLIGHTS 2010

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Dick's bike

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65 Rio Robles E Unit 3402, San Jose, CA 95134-1640

Our experiences this year involved getting resettled in California, many enjoyable events with family and friends, several trips for both business and pleasure, and a number of interesting professional activities.

In spring/summer of 2009 we sold our house in Colorado (sad to say, at a significant loss) and moved back to the same apartment complex we were in when we left for Colorado in 2007. We now reflect back on Colorado as a true learning experience. Although some of it was disruptive and expensive, most was positive, and we will certainly have memories to last the rest of our lives. Our first apartment back here was nice and roomy, but we have since downsized to one with fewer square feet, but a HUGE walk-in closet that holds all our family historical documents and photos plus the few “garage” items we still have. That would include our new fold-up bikes, bought with the insurance settlement we got when our others were stolen (and that was the second burglary for us). Sigh...

We do enjoy interacting with family and friends – especially watching the grandkids learn and grow. We were especially pleased to reconnect a month or so ago with Tim and his Clara – they are living in the Los Angeles area and Tim was settling in to a new job. We hope to see them again up this way in the near future.



Montessori school



Blomquist extended family

We visited the Blomquists in Minnesota twice this year, and they also came here in August for a local family get-together that included a few days in Yosemite. Gillian and Mike are always busy at their jobs and with local family activities. Archer is nearly 5 and Helena turned 3 earlier this month. They've been attending Montessori school and enjoying it. They play together almost like twins – good news and bad if they're “hatching up trouble” as a duo. Archer still loves his trains and the Blomquist cabin; Helena is very verbal and is taking dancing lessons.



8th grade graduation

Ellen and Rick are also very busy at work and with the increasingly dense calendar of family activities. Matthew is now a freshman in high school – he seems to be having a good time and doing well academically. He is also a super-fast track star and plays soccer. Miranda is in the 6th grade and is also playing soccer, piano, and clarinet (in the school band) – she is also a good student.



Big Bunny Run

On the personal front, Dick and I are still running (we have been in several races this year), and we both enjoy photography and get to do it fairly often, especially on trips. Dick continues to take classes in history and political science at Stanford; I completed a Rosetta Stone Spanish course and I'm now reviewing my German. Our technology activities are both personal fun as well as our consulting focus. We are proud (smug?) to report that we're on the bleeding edge with our phones (only cell - no land line any more) and TV (only streaming via our MacBook - no more satellite or cable). Dick paid \$10 for the entire post-season professional baseball package on mlb.com - a little primitive - rather like being at the game instead of relying on electronic instant replay (and suffering through ALL THOSE ADS).



Karlstejn Castle in Prague



Big Bend National Park

We traveled for both business (we're still consulting) and pleasure: Seattle and Prague (Czech Republic) in the spring and West Texas this fall. We also made it down to Southern California twice this year, and we're happy to report that the family there is also doing well.

We are converting some of our websites to WordPress, which gives us new insights into cloud computing. Our newsfromnan.com site (as an example), has gotten a whole new look.

◀ 2010 ◀ BLOMQUIST ◀ CALIFORNIA ◀ COLORADO ◀ JOHNSON ◀ LIVENGOOD ◀ LYONS ◀ SAN JOSE
◀ VAN RAAPHORST