

CHRISTMAS 1999

Dear Friends and Family:

It hardly seems like another year has past. I am thankful for friends and family like you and hope your year has caused many wonderful memories for you. It has been a very busy one for me.

I "retired" from public school teaching, my last position as attendance officer at Dublin Scioto High School, after 30 years. My severance allowed me to pay off debts and purchase a house on the "Hilltop" in Columbus on the west side. I live in a 74-year-old house with wood floors and wood trim, a kitchen nook and those windows with ropes in them. It needs some work, but I am happy to finally be in a real home after five years. I am ten minutes from downtown, and everything I need for conveniences is within a mile, including a beautiful park 2 blocks away.

Steve is now 14 and in 8th grade at Heritage Middle School. In Westerville. He continues to be on the honor roll and is taking Algebra I for high school credit. He played football for the second year, starting a center for the team that finished 4-3. He showed a lot of enthusiasm. If you haven't seen him lately, you would be surprised to see that he is close to 6 feet tall and growing. He worked a bit with me this summer as a baseball umpire at Reynoldsburg Parks and Recreation, where I was a supervisor on two or three evenings a week. He is also helping me to coach the 8-11 year-old recreation basketball team at the nearby rec center in my neighborhood.

Chris graduated from Westerville North High School, having passed some of the senior proficiency tests with honors. He chose to attend Capital University here in Columbus, where he had hoped to play football. An old back injury forced him to stop participation early in preseason and since that time he has been diagnosed with diabetes, which they are trying to control with diet. Chris also worked a little with me this summer umpiring a few games.

I am currently looking for a second career position. Since the summer I have worked a 7-week long-term substitute assignment at St. Catharine School near Bexley, teaching 6th graders most subjects and 7th and 8th grade American history. When that assignment was completed, I started working at Marshall Field's in the logistics flow (various tasks: emptying the truck, doing markdowns, working the dock) department. I intend to work there at least through the holidays (the 20% discount doesn't hurt) and then see where I want to go. I am considering work in college student personnel, textbook publishing, teaching in Catholic or other private schools, or in business. I hope to settle on something before next fall.

I continue to teach Ohio history tours for the Ohio State University Creative Activities Program (adult enrichment) about three times a year on Saturdays. I am finishing my last year on the Ohio University College of Education alumni board. I just finished my 24th year of high school soccer officiating and worked a few games for Ohio University's men's and women's club teams. I took the second of three Art History courses at Ohio State last spring (History of Modern Art) and am enrolled to take the History of Ancient Art course in January. I previously had taken the Medieval/Renaissance course.

My sister Sue and her husband Dave visited in August for a weekend to spend some time and attend the 100th Slutz reunion (Grandma Elwing's side of the family) near Canton, which I have participated in for a number of years. In October Sue stayed here for a week, coming all the way from Arizona, to help me settle in my house and it was greatly appreciated.

It appears that my church, St. Paul Lutheran in Westerville, is about to call a new pastor after a year of searching, though our interim, Jerry Haubrich, has been an blessing to us. My new address is: 203 S. Westgate Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43204-1980; my phone is (614) 279-7566. Have a wonderful and blessed Christmas. Keep in touch! You are welcome any time.

Sincerely,
Dave

Dear Harold and Al,

Wishing you
the warmth of friendship
and lasting happiness
at this special holiday season

Merry Christmas

We enjoyed our visit
as usual. I value
your friendship. God
bless you now and
always. Sincerely,
Dore