

Aloha dear friends!

Although 2009 was a tough year for many, including some very close to us, we two have much to be grateful for. Despite the terrible Hawaii economy and the slowdown in our business, we were named one of Hawaii's 50 Fastest Growing Businesses for the second year in a row. Su and Tara, our superb staff, are still with us and Steve has been a wonderful business partner. We're healthy, and besides working we took some good trips including a truly magical visit with friends in Switzerland.



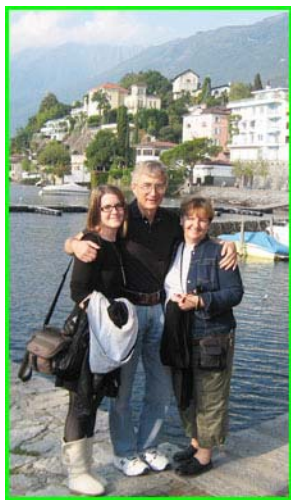
H and flight instructor Denise over Oahu north shore

In May, we celebrated Harrison's big 6-0 (and we don't mean his height) in Honolulu. Sharene got him a fantastic flight in an ultralight on a picture-perfect day over the North Shore.

June was the month Sharene took her annual girls trip. This year it was beautiful Vancouver – what a great city!!! They rode bikes all over the city and through Stanley Park, and walked and walked all day. Then it was back to the apartment with views of Coal Harbor, where they drank lots of cheap wine and had some truly exciting cribbage games!



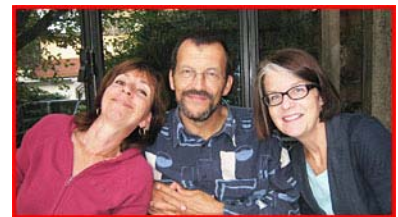
Kate, Cathy, S. Ann



Amelia, H, S

You might recall that Amelia, our dear friend Sarah's daughter (whom Harrison has known since birth) came to visit us last year with her boyfriend, Phil, at the start of an almost year-long 'round-the-world trek from their home in Switzerland. We hadn't seen Amelia for a number of years and, as her mother has done on so many occasions, she immediately swept us off our feet. So after 23 years together, we decided to adopt her! After being shocked, shocked to discover that was impossible, we did the next best thing... we flew off to Europe in September to see her again.

We started our trip with just the two of us discovering Amsterdam for a few days. (Thank you Frank for a great house trade!!! We loved it and we will be back!) We took the train from Amsterdam, and when we arrived in Switzerland we were welcomed with open arms and felt very much a part of an extended family –



Janice, Walter, Sarah

Sarah, Amelia, Phil (now Amelia's husband), Janice, Maxine (think Julia Child... this woman cooked up a storm for us!), Izzy & Hallie (Sarah's twins, all grown up now), and Patrick & Chantal (still madly in love with each other after all these years). We will cherish every moment spent with each and every one of them.

Sarah was an exceptional hostess and tour guide, and her generosity was overwhelming – we can never thank her enough for sharing her unique style and outlook on life. Every day seemed the high point of the trip, until the next day and a new high point! Our final days with Amelia in Ticino, the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland (Tessin in German), were definitely over the top.



Chantal, H, S, Patrick



Sarah, Maxine and dinner!

The Ticino part of the trip started with a stunning sightseeing flight over the Alps that Amelia had arranged with a family friend and private pilot. We then drove to the gorgeous lakefront town of Ascona.

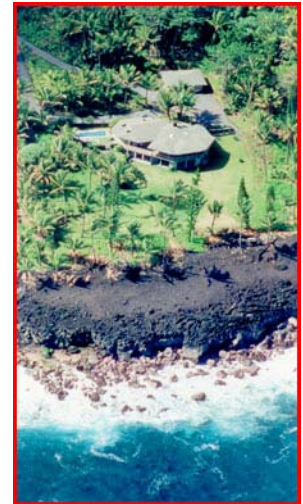


When we arrived at our hotel, we heard wonderful piano music outside being played by a street musician. Before we knew it, he had insisted (in Italian) that Harrison sit down and play, so there was Harrison on this lakeside promenade making his European debut! Amelia was a fantastic tour guide — our meal at an authentic Italian grotto is a side story in itself. But the true joy was simply spending time in Amelia's easy company, laughing and talking about life.



Jon, S, H

Changes are in the air for us in 2010. We put our beloved Hale Kakahe up for sale and we delayed this letter hoping we might have something definite to tell you about that. We don't yet, but if it sells in this tough market we expect to relocate, most likely to Honolulu. With any luck our new home will have guest quarters for our friends and family, although we can tell you *we won't have 3 acres of oceanfront paradise like Hale Kakahe!* It will be smaller but we will still welcome each and every one of you with lots of aloha. As soon as we know what we're doing, we'll send you our new address.



If nothing else, 2009 has been a reminder to us to be grateful for our family, our friends, our health and each other. We are humbled by the challenges that those close to us are going through and we send our heartfelt aloha and positive thoughts your way. We love getting your Christmas letters and hearing from each of you, and we extend a sincere invitation to stay with us if your plans bring you to the islands in the future... wherever in the islands we may be!

Until then, we wish you a warm Mele Kalikimaka and especially good thoughts for a Hau'oli Makahiki Hou!

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