



# The State of Sunshine

December, 2007



Athens, Greece – June 2007

Hello Everyone! I hope all is well with all of you – things are going fine here in Monrovia. It's been a busy year for all of us, but we've been very blessed that everything is going well.

Mom and Dad continue to be blessed with good health and busy schedules as they spend much of their time serving in church and hanging out with their friends. In addition to the Macau/Hainan trip for Mom's 50-Year High School Class Reunion (50 years = Golden Diploma!), they also traveled to Orlando, Florida in February, China in May, and took a Baltic Cruise in August. Mom hit a milestone this year, celebrating her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday in September. Mom had cataract surgery on both eyes, and is doing just fine now. Dad is completely recovered from his prostate surgery last year, too.

My brother Kevin and Susie were also very busy with church, travel, and other things. They took Susie's nephew to Europe in July for his high school graduation, and took their annual anniversary trip to Hawaii (early) in December. Kevin's in his second year of his Executive MBA program at UCLA, and at the same time still works at Broadcom as a Director of Engineering, and at church as a Sunday School teacher, usher, and member of the Pastoral Search Committee. Susie serves in the children's department as it's "principal".

After last year's baby boom, the Chan Clan welcomed just one new baby this year, my cousin Christine's little girl Mahea. My uncle David (Lum) celebrated his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday in April. During the summer, we were blessed with a three-week visit from some of our Hong Kong and Australia relatives, and had a little family reunion while they were here.

For me, the year was very busy with my usual activities of work, church, and family events, Bruisers softball, Dodgers (I got to meet former Dodger Wes Parker when he was at JPL for a tour!), Jazzercise, beading classes, Mary Kay, and getting out of town whenever possible. I'll admit I didn't manage to stay completely uninjured at softball this year, but at least I didn't have to go see a doctor and the injury wasn't to my face this time! ☺ Special Mary Kay events included teaching skin care to the Acteens (girls 8-12 years old) at my church, and leading my MK unit's annual Pamper Me event at the Grace Center. For those of you who wonder about "my" spacecraft, Cassini, it's doing very well. It continues to bring down many beautiful pictures of Saturn and it's moons. You can see all our new images on Cassini's website: <http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov> -- check it out!

This year's trips started with boarding a plane to Hong Kong last year on Christmas night, to attend Mom's 50-year High School Golden Reunion in Macau, and take a tour of Hainan Island in China. It was a lot of fun, hanging out with my mom's old school friends and their families. It's amazing how rowdy the "old folks" can get! In April, Scott took me to San Diego for my birthday, and over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July week we took a minor league baseball road trip up to Northern California. The itinerary included six baseball games in seven nights in Bakersfield, Sacramento, Stockton, and Fresno, and visits to the California State Capitol (where we were able to catch a quick glimpse of Governor Schwarzenegger as he zipped out of his office to a press conference) and the Railroad Museum in Sacramento (both are must-see's if you're ever up there), and the Jelly Belly (for me) and Anheuser-Busch (for Scott) factories in Fairfield. This year's Cassini trip took me to Athens, Greece. It was a very busy ten days, but I did manage to squeeze in a little sight-seeing, and by the end of the trip had managed to visit all three temples in the famous Greek triangle (Parthenon on the Acropolis, Temple of Poseiden in Sounion, and Temple of Aphaia on Aegina), and stand atop Aeropagus Hill at the base of the Acropolis where the Apostle Paul is said to have preached. That was very cool. Next year's travels include an Alaska cruise to attend a friend's wedding, maybe a trip back East to see Scott's family, and hopefully a work trip to Rome in June.

Well, I guess that's about it for now, so I leave you with wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and a fun, happy, healthy, and blessed 2008!

Hugs,

Karen ☺

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# The Pictorial Version of 2007!



*Visiting relatives in Hong Kong last Christmas*



*Part of my softball team, the Bruisers*



*One of my favorite Cassini images*



*With Scott at a friend's wedding*

*Merry  
Christmas to  
All, and to  
All A  
Happy 2008!*



*My mom's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday*



*Calling for the lefty at Petco Park in San Diego*



*On Hainan Island in China*