

Happy Holidays From Jay & Sharon

[2005 Polychromatic Reality Check Version]

Well, it's been another amazing year for the small but scrappy Mitchell family. It was a year that brought significant changes in our professional lives and significant same-old same-old in everything else.



In Our Newish Yard

Professionally, we were successful in selling our Ottumwa radio stations. So now our vast media empire is less vast—we continue to do well with our Fairfield stations—and Jay is able to focus on some other business interests, like his newsletter (which doubled its readership this year), a new online venture (a shopping resource for the newsletter's primary audience) and his new book, *Stupidity for Dummies*.

When he's not working, Jay likes to work some more. He also likes romantic dinners, long walks on the beach and sunsets. (No, wait, that's his Personals ad.)

Sharon is multitasking, as always. She does projects for our local Transcendental Meditation facility in Laguna Beach. . .she does accounting for our radio and consulting/publishing businesses. . .and she continues to dedicate herself to the guitar, hoping to become the next, albeit unplugged, Eric Clapton.



Growth Hormones Work!

Otherwise, we've spent the year plotting—step off, Homeland Security—to redo our kitchen and downstairs floors before getting a new dog (working title: "Issa II"). . .and otherwise make more livable our small but scrappy newish home in Aliso Viejo, hailed by at least one major magazine as The Most Livable City in the Nation. (The magazine was *The Pampered Prisoner*, but it's a start.)

We continue to enjoy the unique gustatorial and cultural opportunities of one of the more populated (read: crowded) areas in the nation: The Olive Garden, Starbucks, movie theaters with many screens and the road show of *Cats*—things you just can't get anywhere else.

Anyway, from our entire family—that would be us—to yours, have the happiest holiday season ever and a great new year!



Our Newish Home



After the Big One

Sharon + Jay

Happy Holidays From Jay & Sharon

[2005 Monochromatic Bogus Alternate Reality Version]

Well, it's been another big year for the Mitchells. This year we spent a lot of time reconnecting with our far-flung family.

Grandma moved in with us, so now it's Sharon, Tippo, Popo, Gigo, Grandma and Jay (see the photo to the right). It's a little cramped in our 500-square-foot two-room home, but we're making do by sleeping in shifts. We're very proud of Tippo; rehab is working out well for her and we're hopeful that she'll be with us to celebrate Christmas 2007.



We had a good time catching up with the other side of the family, too. In the photo to the left, we are hanging out with Muffy, Biff, Chad, Buffy, Mindy, Cindy and Gramps. Just after the photo was taken, Biff was taken into custody, but we're hopeful that we can have him back by Christmas 2008.

We also hooked up with the older generation. In the photo to the right, we're in a more formal setting with "the kids"—Uncle Mo, Uncle Bo, Aunt Flo, Uncle Joe-Bob, Uncle Floyd, Aunt Millie and Uncle Ulysses. Flo is doing really well after her unfortunate accident; her hoop skirt got caught in a bicycle chain and she took quite a spill. We're hopeful that she'll be out of traction in time to celebrate Christmas with us next year.



Otherwise, our year has been enjoyable. We're settling into our home nicely. . .we have dodged earthquakes, tornados, tsunamis, Governor Schwarzenegger and other disasters both natural and unnatural. . .and we have successfully avoided drive-by shootings for another year.

From our entire family to yours, have the happiest holiday season ever and a great new year!

Sharon + Jay