

The Eighteenth Annual Tripp/Tanenbaum Holiday Letter

We hope this letter finds you in good health, warm & surrounded by your loved ones, & not too badly buffeted by the changing times.

This was a year tinged with sadness for us, as Catherine's mother Tera passed away on April 14th.



She died peacefully at home after a long illness surrounded by people that loved her. She will be missed by her extended family whose lives were made better by her great love and fierce defense of the differently abled. Tera's generous acceptance and joy touched many from all walks of life. She was a remarkable woman, and we shall all miss her. We truly appreciated all the many kind people who offered their support along the way & shared their remembrances of Tera in their lives.

2008 was also a year of many nice visits with friends. Business school Friends Joy & David and their kids joined us in San Francisco in July, and Catherine spent a week in Craig and Juanita Woodward's condo in South Lake Tahoe, hiking and philosophizing. Jeff's trip to New York in August included several sessions at the U. S. Open, and his mom, Carol and his dad, Ray also joined him for some of the matches, as did Jeff's partner at NP and friend Dave Rosenthal. We also spent time in Hawaii this year with Sally and Gene, Bob and Diane, and Dick and Barbara.



Catherine chose to spend her 50th birthday up the CA coast in Bodega Bay. It was good for quiet reflection & charting out a new plan for the next journey, CGTrippEnterprises.com, since she left the mortgagebiz. Jeff still hasn't accepted 50 and probably will keep rejecting it for at least 9 more years until he gets it. We both keep throwing away the AARP invitations. Jeff had quite a year at Nixon Peabody. The law industry is undergoing many changes and he's right in the thick of it. NP added on 110 new attorneys in the U.S. and Europe recently, and now has 850 attorneys. His practice group expanded with 25 excellent new hires mostly from the Thelen law firm, which closed its doors this year.

Chris and Roland are adapting to bachelorhood gracefully. Roland is building the town of Willoughby around his train set, and has moved it into its own room, with other games and toys. He enjoyed a trip to Washington, DC with his friend Bobby, and is creating new art that we will showcase in June's Open Studios. Chris is up and about, taking no guff from anyone, a source of strength and inspiration for us all.

We are both in good health, have interesting work, a snug home, good friends & loving family. All in all, we are pretty rich in what truly matters. For the holidays, we spent Thanksgiving among friends on the Big Island, and look forward to Christmas brunch at the Olympic Club with the bachelors in suit and tie, followed by a few days in Las Vegas. We wish you the happiest of holidays and all the best in the coming year!!