

## EDITOR'S CORNER

### Greetings from the Fungs

2001 has been a solemn year due to tragic events which occurred nationally and internationally. The Fungs did have an adventurous, eventful, and jet setting year.

Catherine and Daniel attended professional meetings and enjoyed great scenery, food, culture, and friendship.

April to Wuhan, China toured the fantastic Three Gorges of the mighty Yangtze River, Hong Kong, and Seoul, Korea. A dam built across the Yangtze will displace 1.5 million people, flood the hundreds of steps we labored up the banks, and the hotels we stayed along with irreplaceable treasures, temples, etc.

June to Darmstadt, Germany (treated royally by Merck again), took a leisure boat trip meandering down the Rhine from Rudeshim (near Mainz) to Koln with beautiful castles at every corner. Super!

August to St. Jose, Costa Rica, stayed at the luxurious Hotel Herradura with 3 gorgeous swimming pools. Climbed up Monteverde Cloud Forest where we stood at the Continental Divide and saw the Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean at the same time -through the clouds!! Down to the Jungles of Tortuguero where we took many mystical and adventurous river trips and saw a lot of colorful birds, flowers, trees, and animals (greeted by a variety of monkeys and even a lazy sloth, and observed as a 300 lb turtle laid hundreds of eggs on the beach). Spectacular misty mountain views all around!

November off to Tokyo, Japan as guests of the California Dried Plum Board. Ate some truly delicious, fresh, and authentic Japanese and Italian cuisine. Took day trips to historical Nikko (cedar trees), Hakone (lovely lake), and Kamakura (big Buddha). Mount Fuji with the majestic snow-cap was gloriously displaying its splendor in harmony with the blue autumn sky of the Land of the Rising Sun. Nostalgic visit to International Christian University (ICU) in Mitaka where Daniel was a student in the sixties.

Catharine took an "out of the world" trip to Mauritius and Seychelles in November and December where she saw 3 baby sharks as she swam in the warm, soothing and clear waters of these island countries in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Madagascar. She also witnessed schools of exotic fish flying over the waves when excited by her movements. Wow, what a sight!! Made many new friends and experienced interesting cultures of that region of the world. Stopped by London and absorbed a variety of shows in the theater district (My Fair Lady, Blood Brothers, Lion King, and South African Dance Troop). She is becoming an accomplished diver from the HIGH BOARD both the front dive and the back dive! Continues to enjoy and love her piano playing and book-writing activities. Encourages Daniel to swim 20 laps per day.

Francis just turned happy 28 years old with a growing family. He is working with a computer company in Corvallis, Oregon. Maria is now an Assistant

Professor of Mathematics at Western Oregon University . They are expecting a new baby in January, 2002 -Exciting time!! Dessi is 5 years old and her brother Zlati is about 3 years old. We are pleased that we visited them in Menomonie, WI in August before they moved and equally pleased to stay in their new beautiful home in Corvallis in October.

Daniel went to Budapest, Hungary (conference in May) and Singapore (workshop in July) and attended the wedding of Linus, son of sister Dixie. Sisters Yvette, Elaine and husbands were there too. Also went to many cities in the US for lectures and meetings throughout the year. Just completed his 81st graduate student and won the prestigious Waksman Outstanding Educator Award. Active in church and Lions Club.

WE WISH YOU A VERY HAPPY 2002



Catherine and Daniel ran into Japanese Dorothy and her Wizard of OZ Gang at the ICU Festival. Delightful Encounter.