

Hi Folks,

Dec. 2005

Our big news is the trip we'll be going on next week to Hawaii. Frank was invited to a conference so we decided to make it a family outing. Frank and Andy & I will meet up with Connie in Honolulu and we'll spend a week exploring O'ahu and enjoying pleasant weather. Frank will be finished with his obligations after the first two days so all of us can go hiking around the waterfalls. I've always wanted to see a volcano so maybe now I'll have the chance. We're considering this our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary trip -- that big Five-O comes up in August.



For the 27<sup>th</sup> year I spent the summer on staff at the Silver Bay Association YMCA on Lake George in the Adirondacks. Other years I have worked mainly around the waterfront but this year I branched out into the nature program where I found myself leading wildflower walks and short nature hikes and working in the wildflower garden. I have always been interested in wildflowers and the past three years I've taken a lot of pictures of wildflowers on and near the Silver Bay campus with my Nikon compact digital camera. The pictures assembled nicely into a slide show which I have shown twice at Silver Bay to less than standing-room-only audiences, but the people who did attend seemed interested. The Silver Bay area is a rich habitat because of extensive wetlands interspersed throughout upland forests. In the Adirondacks the higher you climb the wetter it gets! Last summer Frank with Connie,



Morris, & Henry visited again, and this time Ted came along, so we were only missing Andy. Next summer maybe we can pry him loose from his engineering activities long enough to join us.

We're glad to report that everyone is well and busy. Connie's house expansion in California is finally finished so she now has much more room and the mess is mostly gone. Frank is still at Princeton and in addition is a report monitor for the National Academy of Science. Princeton just acquired a Blue Gene computer from IBM which Frank may be able to cadge some time on for his research programs. He and I continue to volunteer for our local watershed association, but the tsunami of sprawl may not be stoppable.

We hope your holidays are happy and renewing, and always know you are in our thoughts.