

2024 Letter

Hello Dear People,

A short greeting this year acknowledging that we aren't doing anything to write about. It's been several years of ...isolate, surgery, rehab... repeat. The details of this routine would put you to sleep. Suffice it to say that Dave is running out of joints to replace, and Judy's are slowly rusting. Two surgeries for Dave and one for Judy in the near future, and then perhaps we can return to backpacking, grateful to have eluded wheelchairs.

We have visited Stacy, Sal, and two-year-old Luca several times and met them at the cabin for pleasant sojourns. And we live next to Jeff and Victoria and their three lively sons with whom we do projects and who brighten our days.

We also managed a week-long camping reunion with Judy's side of the family at an Oregon sea side park. 18 people and two dogs (one of which was big enough to count as two people and who loved everybody to death). Two of the middle generation driving two vans handled ALL of the gear plus the big dog, and made the whole event work. We owe them!

Dave is still the creative scientist while Judy plants trees and replaces bunny-eaten shrubs. And she weeds. And prunes. Two different types of olive trees now grace the homestead, chosen for their table qualities, though Judy struggles to remember to change the brine on the fruit. Red Cross, book group and seven exercise classes number among the distractions.

Amazingly, the Boysenberries bore fruit and the roses bloomed through most of December. One of the six avocado trees continues to produce more fruit than we can eat or give away. It should have ceased two months ago. Climate change is a thing.

We think often of you and the friends we have made around the world, and regret that we have not managed to stay in touch, let alone visit. We would love to know where life finds you, what you are doing, what you think about and care for. Please know that we have space for visitors (though the studio lacks air conditioning, has only space heaters, and the bed is an air mattress). We would love to see you.

Thinking of you and wishing the best for you,
Judy and Dave

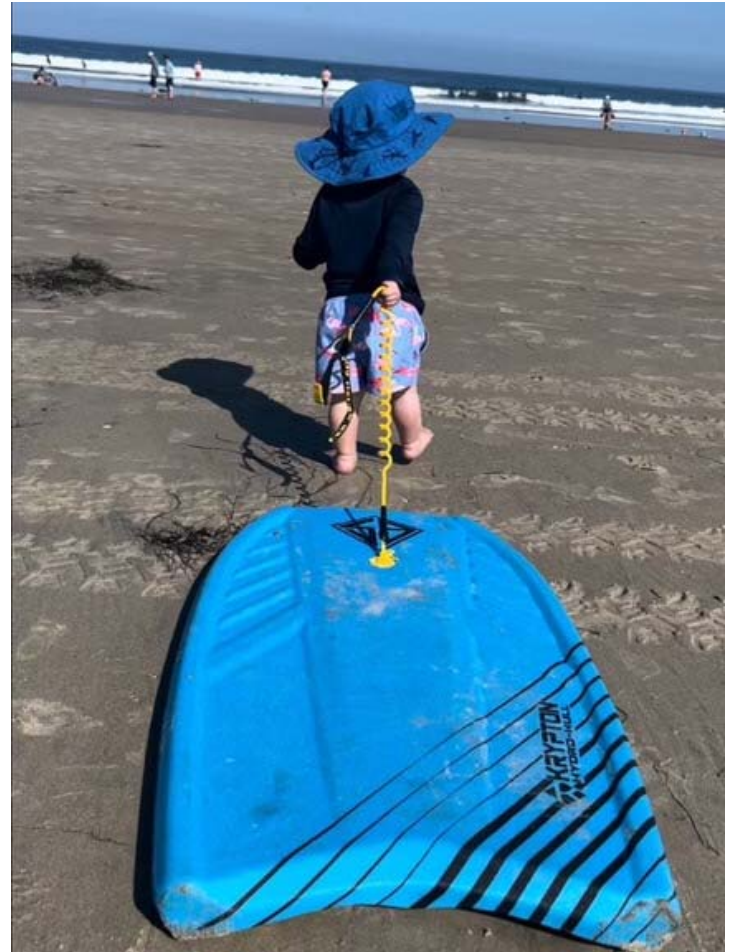


Andrew, Victoria,
David, Julian, and Jeff
at Disneyland





Stacy, Sal, and Luca



Little surfer dude



Two generations: Luca and Grampy, Coronado Island



Luca using Dad as a chair while pretending to read (note that the book is right-side up)



Luca talking to Halloween dog skeleton (whose jaws move and makes sounds)



Sunset at the beach