

**Happy, Happy Holidays 2014 to all our friends and family!**



Our family at the Halema'uma'u Volcano Crater – Hawaii Volcanoes National Park - May 2014

2014 continued to be a wonderful year for our family. Jim and I enjoyed working and staying relatively healthy. After an especially brutal winter here in Indiana, in May, we once again traveled to Hawaii - the Big Island this time, where Daniel, Patrick, Brittney and our little Will (he will be 3 years old on December 21, 2014) enjoyed all the pleasures of the island for a week. We rented a home on the coast and a cabin near the crater so we could all stay together. We drove the entire island and hiked many miles. The boys jumped off a cliff into the ocean near the southernmost point of the whole United States, various ones of us zip lined (a truly exciting and wonderful experience that I highly recommend), viewed the stars from telescopes on the side of the volcano, kayaked, snorkeled, hiked the crater, enjoyed the many Hawaiian food delicacies (various poke dishes and local fish) and just simply had a wonderful time. The best part was being all together for a while. And in August, Patrick and Brittney returned to Indiana briefly so Patrick could be a groomsman in his college roommate's wedding and our nieces, Carolyn and Amelia came down to our house for a weekend to visit.



Dan Kayaking to Captain Cook Monument



Patrick and Brittney Kayaking – Big Island



Snorkeling near the Captain Cook Monument- The protected Green Sea Turtles of Hawaii



A rest between Zip Lines on the Big Island



Hiking in the Kilauea Iki Crater

It is tough being so far from our family, especially during the holidays, but thank goodness for Skype and Google +. Our little Will is talking and understanding and expressing himself so much more, so it is a special pleasure to see what he does and what he says. Brittney takes wonderful care of Will and their home in Hawaii while Patrick has flown literally all over the world on various interesting missions. Patrick transported people and vehicles for Michelle Obama's visit to China, often transports US military remains from past wars in the Pacific area

(there are still teams searching and locating these remains), transported the President's helicopter, and he has flown at least two missions we know of to current war zones.



Patrick, Will and Brittany



Patrick leaving on a C-17 mission.

Will's Reaction to Santa in 2013 vs. 2014 – Much Better – Same great Santa.



Daniel still enjoys living in his top floor apartment on Capitol Hill in Seattle. He is currently employing several experts who are still working on a new version of Universe Sandbox to be released on Steam sometime next year. But this year they did release a new version on the Universe Sandbox website ([universesandbox.com](http://universesandbox.com)) and that has done very well for him. Currently Dan has been doing some rock climbing, camping, and hiking. Dan is crazy about his little nephew Will and they have established a close bond. Will loves for Dan to visit him in Hawaii so they can have uncle-nephew play time together.



Will and Dan on the Big Island



Dan and Will playing in the sand.



Dan on one of his many hikes in the beautiful state of Washington.

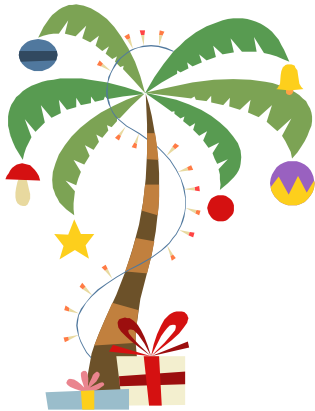
Our Pets. Our cocker Spaniels, Brigit and Reesy seem to enjoy life with us and all our cats. We still have three feral cats (Maud, Midnight & Sunshine) living on our front porch with several heated shelters and food and water. I recently found great homes for two of my rescued cats that have been living inside (Mr. Jinx and Gaia). Three still live happily in our basement. (Isis, Athena & Kali). In October, I brought in one large wonderfully friendly gold and white male cat who came to our front porch off and on over the past few months. I named him Zeus and got

him neutered and shots and medication for some wounds on his head that were infected. I hope to find him a good inside home very soon.

Jim and I look forward to 2015 and are planning another trip to Hawaii, to Maui first in February to see the whales and of course then on to Oahu to be with the whole family for a few days. And, if all goes well, (THE BIG NEWS!, but not wholly unexpected) we will welcome a new grandchild into the world next summer in Hawaii. Meanwhile, we hope you all stay well and happy and have a wonderful, wonderful 2015. Please stay in touch with us. Blessed Be.

**Aloha!**

Peggy and Jim Dixon



Jim and Peggy Dixon – May/June 2014



Beautiful sunset on the Big Island in Hawaii – Aloha!