

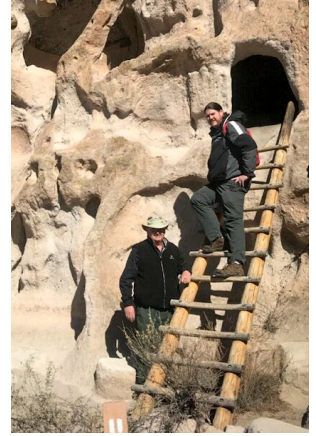
Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Frohe Weihnachten, God Jul, Joyeux Noel, Kung His Hsin Nien bing Chu Shen Tan, Buon Natale, Shalom, I'd Millad Said oua Sana Said, Io Saturnalia,



It's been another good year. Our biggest news of the year is that Paul started a new job in July. The new position is a return to his old company, Schrodinger, where he worked after our return from Germany in 2004. The new position is very different, focusing on support, training, and project management for their cheminformatics platform. There are a lot of elements similar to his position at CCDC and he gets to work with a couple of former colleagues which is great. While he's still traveling a bit, it's mostly short trips to Boston so less time away than before.

Besides that, Kyle started seventh grade in September and is doing well. He's still involved in Boy Scouts and did a few camping trips this year, including a cabin camping trip to near Philadelphia in February, a hike up Mt. Tammany in May, and a rainy trip to West Point in September. Suzanne's company is doing well too. They've added a few new people and plan to expand further in the coming year. In February, we got two new rats as the others had passed away. Winston and Churchill are two, very large and very friendly, albino rats.

Of course, we, especially Paul, did some traveling. In March, Paul went once again to Santa Fe, NM for the OpenEye Scientific user group meeting. As real bonus this year, our friend Paul Murphy was able to come up from Carlsbad where he lives. Paul flew in early on Friday, and spent the evening wandering Santa Fe. On Saturday, Paul Murphy came up and they visited Pecos National Historic Park. On Saturday, they did a big loop, starting with a hike at along the ruins at Bandelier National Monument, then a visit to Valles Caldera National Preserve. They drove over the mountain, with stops at Soda Dam and lunch in Jemez Springs (at a place that had lost electricity). On Monday morning, they did a great hike at Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument before Paul Murphy headed back south.



Later in March, Paul spent most of a week in New Orleans to attend the American Chemical Society meeting. This was a good meeting, especially as it was where Paul's new job starting coming together. In May, Paul did a back-to-back trip to attend PyCON (Python programming language conference) in Cleveland, OH and then fly from there to England to spend a week at the CCDC main office in Cambridge. This was a bittersweet trip to England as it was here that he got the official job offer for the new position but that also meant it was his last time in Cambridge and likely the last time seeing many of his UK-based friends and colleagues for a while.



In June, Paul ended up going back to Japan. For this trip, Paul's mom, Fran, went with him as the timing worked out well for her but not for Suzanne. They spent a total of two weeks there, one week of vacation seeing Kyoto, Kanazawa, and Tokyo. The second week had Paul working, doing several company visits with a colleague from Cambridge, and giving a talk at the Protein Society of Japan meeting in Kanazawa. During this time, Fran spent the week visiting more of Tokyo, including, a day trip to Kamakura.

Finally, in August it was time for our family trip. We decided to head out to San Francisco the week before Labor Day. We flew in Saturday morning, spent some time in Chinatown, and poked around a bit. We stayed at an AirBnB in Haight-Ashbury which was great. We ended spending three full days (plus Saturday) in the city and visited a bunch of sites including the Presidio, walking partway across the Golden Gate Bridge, the Embarcadero, Alcatraz (just Kyle and Paul), and the Mission District. On Wednesday, we picked up a rental car and headed to Calistoga, at the north end of Napa Valley, via Muir Woods National Monument. Thursday was a day to visit several wineries. Friday, we drove to Monterey with a stop at Pinnacles National Park, the newest NP though it became a National Monument back in 1908. Saturday was spent at Point Lobos State Park and Mission San Juan Bautista. Sunday was our day to visit the wonderful Monterey Bay Aquarium. On Monday, we drove back to the airport and headed home.



Aside from major trips, we did have time to do some other things. In January, we got tickets to see MSU play ice hockey at Madison Square Garden in NYC so made a day of it. Kyle and Paul visited the New York Auto Show in April which was cool. Just after Paul started his new job, they had a group event consisting of a cruise around New York Harbor in the evening. Of course, we did our annual apple picking trip in October.

It's been a busy year but has been nice that Paul has been home a bit more. Big plans for next year include a trip in May for Suzanne and Paul to Croatia to celebrate our 20th wedding anniversary. We're still deciding on a family trip during the summer but are leaning toward Germany if the timing works out. Of course, you can always see more photos at our website, <http://www.sanschagrins.com>. We hope that you have a wonderful holiday and an excellent new year,

*Paul, Suzanne, and Kyle Sanschagrin*