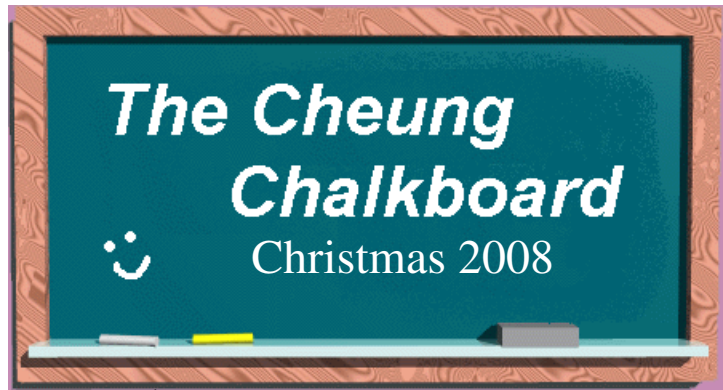


Dear Family and Friends,

In the words of Stephanie, “It’s been another great year”. As usual, we rang in the New Year surrounded by family and fireworks in Aruba.



The kids are doing well in school. Stephanie is in 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Elizabeth Seton High School. She is in the Scholars Club, and she has been very active in the Art Club. She has been creating some beautiful pieces in her drawing class, while at home she has been very creative with the sewing machine. She mainly makes her own non-uniform clothes, and often gets compliments from kids her age when she goes out to social gatherings.

Christopher is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade at Bowie Montessori, in Middle School. He joined a Lego Mindstorm League team this fall and they are working on robotic missions for a competition in January 2009. Since he likes Legos and tinkering with anything that is electronic, this is perfect for him.

Both kids and Ed still enjoy in-line skating and visit the local rink at least twice a week. We also like to seek out new rinks whenever we go out of town. Stephanie usually draws a small fan club for all her inline tricks and moves.

Agnes took on the challenge this year by participating in the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer Research. She trained for ten weeks, increasing her walking distance and improving her endurance each week. Both kids often accompanied her on training walks on their inline skates. Christopher even completed a 17 mile training walk (skate) on Kent Island, MD. He was tired and blistered, but he never once complained. We have noticed that he is capable of withstanding all kinds of hardships without ever a complaint. What a trooper he is.

Thanks to donations and contributions by family and friends, Agnes raised a total of \$2,921 for Breast Cancer Research! In all, she logged 40 miles of walking over the course of two days. She also camped out overnight with the other walkers. Agnes found it very inspirational to walk amongst so many that share a common bond and purpose. She dedicated her efforts to her Aunt Sula, who is a recovering Cancer patient. Pictures of her walk and more about her experiences and donors can be seen on our family’s website ([www.edcheung.com](http://www.edcheung.com)).

The big event for the summer was the preparations for the final Shuttle Servicing Mission to the Hubble Space Telescope. Ed had to travel there alone for most of it due to the children’s school obligations, but we were able to spend three weeks together at Cape Canaveral. While in Florida, we enjoyed visits to the Disney parks, the Brevard County Zoo, Cocoa Beach, and the nearby Science

Centers. One of the highlights was going to see “Blue Man Group” live at Universal Board Walk. The kids are a big fan of this performing troupe. Due to a failure on HST, the launch has been postponed until May 2009. Ed and his coworkers are busily preparing a replacement unit for the Science Data Computer which failure caused the postponement. On the day of the failure, Ed was in his car driving to the airport in order to travel to Kennedy. A text page called him to return to the Control Center to diagnose a problem. Since then, it has been a whirlwind of activity to get ready for May. Incidentally, this year, Ed had the privilege of being profiled in the most recent edition of the “Hubble Space Telescope Science Year in Review” publication.

Agnes and the kids returned to Aruba in August for Roland (Agnes’ brother) and Rita Elena’s wedding. Both Stephanie and Christopher were in the wedding and Agnes sewed the wedding dress, crown and veil. The bride looked really beautiful, and it was Agnes’ first attempt at sewing a wedding dress!

In the coming year, we look forward to more adventures, more skating and pinball shows, and spending time with many of you – our family and friends. We also look forward to the launch of STS-125. We send our love and best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2009 to you. May God bless all of you.

