

2006

Season's Greetings

December 2006

Volume 13

Arlington, Massachusetts

We were outside in our shorts taking Marshall for a walk when we noticed that our rosebush was starting to bud. That's when we knew it must be time to start working on our annual greetings?!. In spite of the extremely warm weather this season, we (and many of our neighbors) have managed to make it look a little bit like the holidays are upon us. And that helps us to set our mind and moods as we take a stroll back through 2006— and take a look forward at the new year coming upon us.

This has been a year filled with changes and challenges. We've had our share of ups, a few downs, but the overarching feeling we have— for ourselves, our community, our country, and even our planet— is a great sense of anticipation for what lies ahead. And that's our theme this year: **anticipation**. We look forward to bold new ideas, moving in new directions, new technologies to solve old problems, and opportunities that we haven't yet even thought of.

In the spirit of the season, take a few minutes to stop and "smell the roses" - we still have a few on the bush - and enjoy the sparkle and twinkle that makes this time of year special. While you're doing that, enjoy the anticipation of what lies ahead.

Enjoy a safe, happy, healthy, and prosperous 2007...

From our home to yours,

Season's Greetings!

Mare
& Jeffrey

Marshall 
Sadie 

Jeffrey

had more than his share of change and challenge this year. A collision between a sofa and Jeffrey's forearm at work in April resulted in his arm being broken. Jeffrey spent the next six weeks with his right arm in a cast, and another six weeks doing intensive physical therapy... we're happy to say he's recovered nearly 100%. Unfortunately, Jeffrey's position and relationship with Circle Furniture did not recover, and after nearly 10 years they parted ways. Over the summer, he focused on his physical therapy and navigating the Massachusetts workmen's compensation system, while also charting the next step in his career. With all of these events, the build-up of stress was the likely trigger for an extended Chron's flare-up which he has been managing.



west elm

West Elm, a stylish and contemporary retail concept from Williams-Sonoma, opened two new stores in Boston at the end of the summer. Jeffrey began working with them as they were preparing the Burlington store, and he continues to work there part-time as schedules permit. This is Jeffrey's first time working for a large corporation, so there are a lot of processes and new methods that he has been learning. This is a very fun environment, with cool products and great co-workers that he's established some great friendships with. Then there is that employee discount...

Jeffrey is now working full-time with the highly-acclaimed Roche Bobois store in their new Natick location. Consistently listed in the *Best of Boston* and *Boston A-List*, Roche Bobois specializes in high-end, exclusive French and Italian designs and is viewed by both designers clients as "the best." This is an excellent opportunity for Jeffrey to work with an international company where he can maximize his design flair and selling abilities—and refine his French-language skills!

rochebobois

PARIS



Kodak

Marc has become so accustomed to change at work that when things stay the same for too long, he worries. Kodak did not disappoint this year, as a number of realignment and reorganization activities have him now working with many of his former Scitex colleagues. Kodak has strengthened and streamlined its Graphic Communications Group—originally five separate companies—into one cohesive group. Marc continues to focus on high-volume inkjet printing solutions, primarily for printers producing direct mail. Marc works with both printers and their customers (and their agencies) as well as industry associations to promote the kinds of applications that Kodak equipment is suited for. This continues to be a hot area of growth for Kodak, and he will continue to travel extensively around the U.S. and Canada. While that is a little harder these days with all of the security and airline changes, it does makes us appreciate the time that we spend together that much more.

Marc



Whether at the Direct Marketing Association, Graph Expo show, customer open houses, seminars, or Kodak road-shows, Marc is a frequent speaker, contributor, and coordinator.



Life (and stuff)

No big vacations or trips this year— but we did have some excursions and visits.

Left: We visited Dan, Stacy, Sammy, and our newest goddaughter, Sofia, in upstate New York shortly after she was born.



Marshall made the trip with us, and not only was gentle as a lamb with Fia, but demonstrated his alert driving skills. And we were very lucky to be able to coordinate schedules and make it back in July where we celebrated both our 2nd (or 13th, depending on how you count!) anniversary and Marshall's 1st birthday. Sammy loves "Marshall the Doggie" and we think he's kind of smitten with her too! It is so amazing to see how fast these girls are growing!

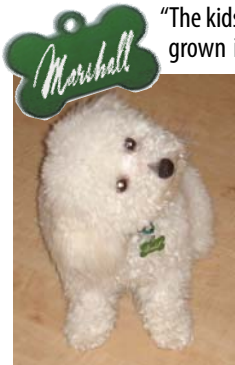


There's nothing like springtime on our tree-lined street, and we took full advantage of our outdoor spaces. No major remodeling projects this year!



Marjorie was able to come to Boston for Thanksgiving this year—a tradition that we very much look forward to! We also were able to make it (barely, thanks to the snowstorm!) to Chicago for Marc's cousin's wedding and had a great time catching up with both of our families.





"The kids" have been awesome this year. Sadie has grown into a fiercely loving cat—with a strong "inner-kitten." Watching her play with Marshall leaves us both amazed and laughing hysterically. She is so full of love that it still angers us when we think about how she was left in a garbage can—and thankful she is in our lives.



While still quite the puppy, Marshall is maturing into a happy, outgoing, well-mannered little guy. We really have to thank Peter and Sean at Command Pawformance for helping us with training—as well as Kerry and her gang for his play groups (and Julie and Robin for helping to keep him so stylish, and Dr. Kevin & his team for helping us keep him in perfect health).

The one word that everyone seems to use when describing our little guy is **exuberant**—he has such an abundance of excitement and energy, whether it's when we come home (especially after Marc comes back from a trip!), when he sees someone he knows, or meets new people (or dogs, cats...). He's spent so much time in class with "the big dogs," coupled with training by Sadie, that he is absolutely fearless.



Thanks for spending a few minutes with us catching up... we love hearing (and reading) everyone's news and look forward to it every year. With all of the hurried change going on, it seems like there's never enough time to keep up with everyone's busy lives! With that, we close with a most simple and heartfelt wish for all of us... peace, joy, and hopeful anticipation.



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