



Wintry front view at Burma Rd.

2005 Holiday Greetings from Anne and Robert

It's hard to believe a whole year has passed since composing our last letter. But it has, and fortunately there is not too much to report. Our pictures are from celebrating Anne's 60th birthday. We had a nice visit with Anne's sister Ellen and went skiing and snowshoeing on the ice at Perkins Pond.

Although we miss our cats, there are no pets to take care of now. This gives us a lot of freedom to drop everything and go away for a weekend. We spent most weekends from mid-May through September at Anne and Ellen's family cottage on Perkins Pond in Sunapee. Our green boat, Avocado, was reliable and hence a source of enjoyment without needing too much attention.

Anne's job has expanded, with Stow TV now recording and televising Selectmen's meetings and Town Meeting. With new material to broadcast each week, just planning a program schedule, publicizing the schedule in newspapers web and email, and setting up the equipment to automatically play the programs takes up much of Anne's work time.

In remembrance of New Orleans before the flood, Anne used the "bulletin board" facility at Stow TV to create a short video slide show of pictures from our enjoyable visit of a dozen years ago.

Robert has become very involved in the Linux work at Stratus. The major software release that was the focus of work all year is about to become publicly available; Robert is looking forward to the next project where he will be writing a device driver and leading the small team that will add support for a system management card. One sign of taking the mental leap away from Windows — his fastest PC at home now runs Linux. In a blast from the past, US patent #6,970,892 was issued for work Robert and others did on VOS in his first years at Stratus.

With sorrow and pleasure we had events that drew the family together. Anne's Aunt Barbara died after years in a Barre VT nursing home. Robert's cousin Lisa was married near NYC. In strange coincidence, these events occurred two days apart.



The property we bought in December 2004 on Burma Road in Sunapee has been our focal point all year. It's also on Perkins Pond, a short distance from the family cottage. Revising our ideas of what we wanted in that house and getting approvals from town boards was an ongoing process until November. In parallel, Ellen has done space planning and drawn up floor plans. We're optimistically hoping to have a final design in January and to be able to start construction by the end of Summer. Meanwhile, we slept in the old building at Burma for the first time at Thanksgiving.

Best wishes for 2006.

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