

Could it really be a year? Already ? Hear the tale of 98 already gone but pretty great....

We started on a roll with January cold, ice fishing in Pineview reservoir. Fishing is a continuing theme in 1998 as a commitment to Sam for continued "diligence" in practicing piano....ah, we never flounder.

A 14 month long (it'll take just a couple of weeks.....honest) bathroom project came to a thankful point of completion in January, giving us an upstairs shower. The final upstairs project is done. Now for the basement.....

First "news" happens in March with a visit from Holly. And a return of favor, in April, back to her new digs in Portland for our spring fling. Between rain showers we enjoyed the beach, little league games, and being together with "long lost" family. We made visits to Debbie's parents in Boise along the way and enjoyed the great northwest.

As the snow melted in Salt Lake we started the "sports season": Jonas in track, Sam in soccer, the Jazz in the #1 NBA playoff position....can it get any better than this?

We started the summer at a run: Debbie to a cousin's wedding in southern Illinois. Some "quality time" together while kids "vacationed" in Boise visiting Gram and Gramps. Both boys in soccer camp, followed by "swim to win" and then, Fourth of July !

July is traditionally "Central Idaho" month and this year was no exception. The boys headed off to summer camp together. I connected with my longtime friend Lyman for another denial of the effects of aging with our "male bonding weekend" (6 miles, climb to 8500'). We look forward to the day when Jonas and Sam can serve as Sherpas (it feels more and more like Everest).

If July is a hiking month then August is our fishing month. We went on a family fly fishing weekend (guided! Wow!) down near Boulder, UT, where we practiced the art of fly fishing. Jonas gets the prize this year with a 20" brook trout (still waiting for photo verification). Of course we went to Minnesota and caught a passel of 3" sunnies and bluegill. Better pickings in an aquarium.....

As school cranked back up for the boys, I took my annual trek to Anchorage for a "business" meeting. Although we missed out on halibut fishing, we caught more salmon than I can remember. And that beautiful Alaskan summer! Man, it's the greatest state in the U.S. (as far as I am concerned) and the closest thing to heaven I can imagine.

Fishing again in October ! We snuck out to a place we hadn't been before, Flaming Gorge. And, in a month not known for its pleasantness in Utah, we had fantastic weather (probably only 35 degrees at night). Although most of the huge fish avoided our stealthy techniques, we enjoyed being together and enjoyed the Utah Outdoors.

I am not sure what happened in November , I spent most of it at 40,000 feet. Debbie headed off to Vancouver, BC for a weekend workshop and I took off to Denver (our friends the Sheide's looked after Sam and Jonas) for a church-related workshop. I vaguely remember a birthday and Thanksgiving but everything else is a blur.

Things settled down (thankfully) in December. I finished my travels on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and spent a blissful month with Deb and the boys. We were very much at "Heavenly Peace". We also reprised our beginning of 1998 with an ending at Pineview reservoir.

Deb continues to work part time at the Sports Medicine clinic and continues her leadership in Bible Study Fellowship. Jonas, as a 6<sup>th</sup> grader, has difficulty remembering that he is in school, let alone remembering his assignments. Sam, when he is not fishing, reading about fishing, tying flies or dreaming of fishing is a 4<sup>th</sup> grader. Me, I fly.....

We wish you a blessed, joy filled 1999. And thanks for your prayers and remembrances during the holidays.