

1/94

(1993 letter)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This may sound like a cracked phonograph record, but again, my work keeps intruding on my time to do personal things, such as this letter. This year my committee overseeing the modernization of the National Weather Service is producing three reports. The first, mandated by an act of Congress, was issued on schedule last July. The two others are now behind schedule, but I should be able to get them to the printer early in 1994. I'm spending the holidays getting them through the peer review process. Next Christmas I won't have this excuse as I am officially retiring on May 31. (What, again?) I'm really "running out of steam" and looking forward to that day.

I had enough travel in '93 to regain my United Airlines Premier status (more benefits). It was California in January for the annual meeting of the American Meteorological Society and a meeting of one of my panels. Then back again for a meeting of the full committee in Irvine. March found me in Boulder for a meeting. In April it was back to California for another meeting plus to Bermuda for a week's "R and R" (lovely!). July found me in Boulder again for a week, including a side trip with the Ruttenbergs to Breckenridge (where they have a cabin) and Aspen. The big trip was my usual fall visit to Switzerland and France (9/24-10/12), based with newlyweds (11/92), Gordon and Kathleen Cartwright. It rained all except about three days which put a damper on things. But the rain didn't slow up the wonderful eating (including restaurants with a total of eight Michelin stars). No travel since, but it starts again next month.

The family continues to evolve. Molly and John Burke celebrated the birth of their second child, John Patrick Burke on June 14. That makes five grandchildren and I'm told **THAT'S ALL!** We shall see. Martha married Randy McElroy on September 3; they, with Kelley, still live in Gaithersburg not too far from Molly and John. Peggy now is working for a large law firm in downtown D.C. Better pay and benefits more than compensate for the lousy commute.

Sailing has been pretty meager this year; I went out overnight or more only six times. That should change with retirement. But I did have a few spectacular sails (weather beautiful and perfect winds). I plan to stay right here after I retire, but spend more time sailing and indulge in travel while I'm able. But I hope I still can have a modest amount of technical activity to "keep in touch." Keep tuned next year to see what actually happens!