

SEASON'S

GREETINGS



2004, A Light Year

Sharon and I had a quiet Christmas in 2003, with a nice dinner, next to a warm fire.



In January, we traveled to Washington, DC on business. We rented a test chamber in Maryland and spent a couple of days testing a client's prototype, which included some interesting light created by high voltage.



In February, we went to the Western Winter Blast fireworks convention in Lake Havasu City, Arizona. We attended a lot of seminars and learned a lot about both outdoor and indoor fireworks. Jerry also built and fired a rocket and ball shell, the rocket worked perfectly and the ball shell made an impressive display.



At the end of March Jerry went to Washington, DC again for some additional testing. The day after he returned we attended a fireworks training class which counts as credit towards obtaining a fireworks operator's license in California. There was a display of various fireworks (pictured is a large ball shell as used in the Olympics) and there was also a daytime demo of some fireworks which the local children enjoyed.



There was a display of

We made our annual trip to Kaua'i a week after the training class and got a chance to relax and celebrate our 23rd anniversary after a very busy few months.



In June we applied for and received a federal explosives permit. This required an ATF inspection, FBI check, fingerprints, photographs, etc. We technically don't need one since all the fireworks we use are under contract to other people, but it's a good thing to have if you're found to have explosives residue on you. Our ATF inspector suggested we carry a copy of the permit with us when we travel, which we will.

We worked on two fireworks shows July 4th & 5th, here's what it looks like from the launch site looking straight up. Yes, we had full protective gear on! We now have Nomex fire and cut resistant clothing and gloves. Jerry also has a police grade Nomex balaclava (ski mask) to keep his hair and beard safe.



This fall, we entered into agreements with two companies to supply Windows and Mac software for our lighting controllers and have an advertisement about that in TD&T Magazine. We, also, introduced a new lighting product. Hopefully, this will help our sales.

Throughout the year, we worked on our normal "day jobs" (circuit design for Jerry and printed circuit board layout for Sharon), enjoyed visits from friends, and worked on the house and garden.

In February, we'll be at Western Winter Blast again, and then, Toronto, in March, to demonstrate our products at a trade show, and April will find us in Kaua'i, again.

**Wishing all of you the happiest of holidays,
Jerry & Sharon Durand**

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