

California Breeze

Changes and Near Changes



hey say that changes can be good from time to time. They serve to provide fresh perspectives, keep one from stagnating, and they challenge the status quo. If all this is true, then my status quo has been challenged somewhat recently. You see, I am going through some changes of my own. First of all, I am changing my address. After living in the rolling hills of Calabasas for three years, I am moving to an apartment in Van Nuys, where the rent is cheaper, I will have two guys for roommates, and the drive to those places I hangout at will be shorter. As of June 1st, I will be in my new digs, smelling new carpeting and new paint, adjusting to a smaller bedroom, and wondering where I am going to put all my stuff. We all know how we realize how much more stuff we have accumulated since the last time we moved when we go to move again! Van Nuys is not as pretty an area as Calabasas, matter of fact, it's not very pretty at all. But, the apartment complex I am moving into is really not much like the rest of Van Nuys anyway. So, once again, I pack my stuff up and move on.

I almost changed employers, but didn't. I bought a mountain bike and have decided to change my morning routine to get a cardio program going, by doing some cycling and getting into better shape. I want to live long enough to enjoy my investments, so lifestyle changes are needed.

Things are pretty good right now for me as these changes unfold. I have some new things to look forward to, and my enthusiasm has been rejuvenated. Not a bad way to cruise through 1995!

SURFIN' ON THE'NET

Not too long ago I abandoned my Prodigy account, in favor of total access to the Internet. I gave up a nice, easy-to-read, commercial-filled service to join the mysterious superhighway of information, the Internet. I can access stuff and people and other computers all over the world, all for about \$20 a month. I can send and receive E-mail, and if anyone wants to write me this way, my address is: Chris38@ix.netcom.com Make sure you type it exactly

the way I have it here, or else it will not get to me. The Net is a vast, sometimes bewildering array of information, just waiting at my fingertips. Will I use it enough to get my money's worth? Guess I will have to wait and see!

*Golden Jubilee
of
Sr. Maryilyn
1945-1995*



Congratulations on your having reached this milestone of selfless ministry to the people of God. May He continue to bless you all the days of your life!

Happy Birthdays are in order for Lynn: (May 4th) and for John: (May 21st). Hope you celebrate them in style!

*Where We Belong, A Duet***Texas Tidbits**

In every town and village,
 In every city square,
 In crowded places
 I searched the faces
 Hoping to find
 Someone to care.

I read mysterious meanings
 In the distant stars,
 Then I went to schoolrooms
 And poolrooms
 And half-lighted cocktail bars.
 Braving dangers,
 Going with strangers,
 I don't even remember their names.
 I was quick and breezy
 And always easy
 Playing romantic games.

I wined and dined a thousand exotic Joans and Janes
 In dusty dance halls, at debutante balls,
 On lonely country lanes.
 I fell in love forever,
 Twice every year or so.
 I wooed them sweetly, was theirs completely,
 But they always let me go.
 Saying bye now, no need to try now,
 You don't have the proper charms.
 Too sentimental and much too gentle
 I don't tremble in your arms.

Then you rose into my life
 Like a promised sunrise.
 Brightening my days with the light in your eyes.
 I've never been so strong,
 Now I'm where I belong.

Maya Angelou



Spring has continued its march into Texas, suspiciously feeling a little like summer some days, but actually lingering around longer than what we have come to expect for April-May. It has not been as muggy as in years past, but that will fade into the reality that makes our weather legendary! Wonder why no one visits us in July or August? Our life continues on without much difference, routines dictated by our kids and our battered budget. We did get to go to Astroworld one Saturday, leaving the littlest one with a baby sitter. Stefanie went on her first rollercoaster, hanging on for dear life to me, but not screaming like I had thought she would. Arianna went on some of the more mild rides, and we all had fun despite the long waits in line for most of the rides. We will go back again in a few years (at \$30 per person, this will not be a frequent excursion).

Stefanie has been accepted into a bi-lingual program for kindergarten starting in September, thanks to a lot of hard work on the part of Frinee to get her in. She had to call frequently to the right people involved, and we were able to bypass a long waiting list to get Stefanie into this school.

Considering that we do not live in the district, which is necessary under most circumstances, it was some luck that they said yes to us. For half of the year, her classes will be taught 100% in English, with the other half in Spanish. This will give her a jump start on becoming bi-lingual early.

Jason enters high school this fall in another scholastic change in our lives. It is fortunate that he lives in a much better school district than the Houston Independent School District, being that he lives in neighboring Sugarland, a few miles away. As well, he will be able to continue to ride his twelve speed to school, and will be close enough that I hope he will become active with extracurricular events. I am looking forward to getting more involved wherever possible in these activities. I expect that he will try out for the basketball team, his favorite sport to play.

Other than a possible trip back home for a weekend to go to Heidi Dillon's wedding, we will be spending our free time at home, around home. Trips to Galveston will probably be the furthest wandering from home base that we will do. Otherwise, the rest of this year will more than likely roll on without much excitement. That's it from our corner of the country!



Here & There

A LIFE INSURANCE policy—for a single guy like me? Normally I wouldn't bother with one, but this one, with New York Life, allows the monthly "premium" to be invested in a variety of ways, that I chose from a list. I can set the amount I pay each month, and am using it for retirement purposes mainly, although when I die, one member of this family will be the recipient of a sizeable payoff. I had to have blood tests done prior to be approved for this policy, and it was nice again to know that my HIV status is still negative. (Not that I was worrying about it!)

I CAME CLOSE to leaving Costco to join a young and growing company called Fry's Electronics. One of their headhunters called me to try and persuade me to look into joining their team. They are building a new store in Woodland Hills, a location I pass on the way home from work everyday. The unique thing about this store is, that like all their stores, it is completely decorated according to a theme. This one will be Alice in Wonderland, and you would have to see it to believe it! Also, it will be their biggest store, with **68 cash registers!** It blew me away when I saw the checkout counter, and that department alone will have 189 employees, all full-time. I interviewed with Randy Fry, was interested enough to have him fly me up to San Jose for a tour of some of their other stores, as well as corporate. I was excited, but a bit fearful at the same time, because I didn't know if I had the desire to put forth the effort that would have been necessary to make this work. I probably would have had to eat, drink, and sleep Fry's Electronics, a kind of life that doesn't exactly appeal to me. In the end, Randy sensed my "give-it-or take-it" attitude, and had his headhunter give me the news. I was relieved, and I realized it was for the best. So, I stay with Costco, who has no idea I was entertaining the notion of leaving them.

TIME TO GET in shape, as summer approaches, so I bought a mountain bike today. I plan on doing some serious riding, to lose some fat that has accumulated around the midsection lately. Too many lazy mornings, spent watching the O.J. trial, and not enough cardio workouts! I want to become a lean machine, and I figure cycling along with my gym workouts will help me with that goal.

WANT A GOOD MOVIE to get into a romantic mood with? Go see "Don Juan DeMarco", starring Jonny

Depp and Marlon Brando. I am a fan of both actors, and they really work well together in this film. I was totally charmed by Depp's character, and the music helped to lure me into that romantic mood, that I went out and bought the sound track right after I left the theater. It's a great movie to take a date (or your spouse!) to see, but be ready for the consequences!

I WILL HAVE to send out my new address and phone number when I get them. I will be in my new place after June 1st, but I haven't seen the apartment (my roommates have) yet. The way they describe it sounds wonderful. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, wood-burning fireplace, new carpet, private fenced in patio, use of swimming pools, quiet area.



I should be coming to visit South Lyon in June, and it will be good to see those of you who will be around. I haven't made reservations yet, but I did block out a week in the middle of the month, so right after I move, I will probably buy a ticket. I want to get out to Kalamazoo, and up north as well.



JUST WONDERING...

If a small TACO is called a "TAQUITO", would a small JUDGE be called a "JUDGE-ITO"?

Thanks For Your Stories!

Last month's California Breeze was great! It was nice to hear from Jim, Bill, Greg, Lynn, and Dad, especially since I didn't have to dominate with my things! Lynn's tidbits were not newsworthy, so she thought, but I thought differently! It may sound trivial or boring to yourself, but to those of us who aren't around each other too much, it's nice to hear the little things going on in our lives, or our heads. So, how about something from Mark, or Uncle Jim, or John, or Melissa? I know you have something to contribute!



California Breeze

Michael P. Schneider
5736 N. Las Virgenes Rd. #128
Calabasas, CA. 91302

SCHNEIDERS
3266 ROSEDALE
ANN ARBOR, MI. 48108

