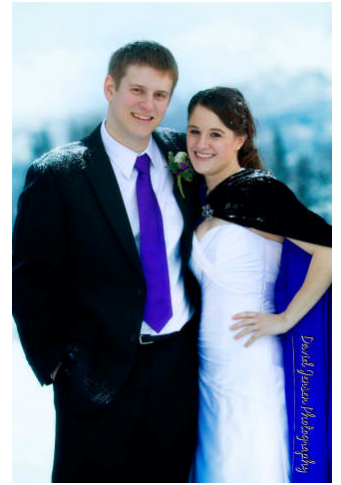


View From the Top



December, 2010 er ... January 2011

Our 19th year in Alaska!

Breaking News: Elyse and Dylan Kutzer married December 29th!

Related News: Christmas Cards & Newsletter a bit late this year

Executive Summary:

Diane still working for the State of Alaska as a Petroleum Geophysicist.

- Bruce still 'retired'
- Elyse is a senior at University of Wyoming with a new last name (pending)
- Dylan is working at a Subaru Dealership in Cheyenne
- Cin-D still a dog (10th year in a row)
- We are still in Alaska (mostly)

Email addresses

- Bruce bruce at shellenbaum.com
- Diane diane at shellenbaum.com
- Elyse elyse.shell at gmail.com
- Dylan dylan.kutzer at gmail.com

A Years Worth of News

Elyse and Dylan's wedding was the big event for us this year. After planning for the last year, roping in many family and friends to help (including some timely Poinsettia sitting) the wedding and the week around it went great (phew!). The weather was perfect (yes, I know, but for late December in Alaska, it really was nice), our big meltdown didn't happen until after all of our intrepid out-of-town relatives had headed back home. Diane's mom, sister and brother-in-law, aunt and

uncle, and Bruce's brother and sister, all came up to help and support us, it was wonderful having them here. Sounds like they had fun explaining to their friends why exactly they were travelling to Alaska in the middle of winter. We had lots of help from our wonderful 'Alaska family', for whom we continue to feel grateful, and also the help and support from Dylan's family, with whom it was a pleasure to work (and eat!) with and get to know better.

Elyse and Dylan have moved into an apartment in Cheyenne, where Elyse will be student teaching 3rd grade, conveniently close to where Dylan is working at a Subaru dealership. All the parents are happy neither one of them will have to commute from Laramie. Their plan is to move back to Alaska next summer after Elyse graduates, so keep your fingers crossed for successful job hunting for the two of them.

No visitors this summer, so it was pretty laid back. Bruce and Diane did



get in some hiking, and also went to Colorado and Wyoming to see family and to finally get to Cheyenne Frontier Days, one of the premier rodeos in the country.



It was great and a beautiful day too.

Elyse came home just briefly this summer and again at Thanksgiving, both trips were wedding planning whirlwinds.

We went through the Alaska state energy audit program. Bruce worked from last September through to this September insulating, caulking, you name it, he did it, a major effort. We also had a new 'on demand' water heater and a 97% efficient furnace installed. The final audit came back as an Energy Star 5 rating. The only way to bump it any further is to pull the siding off the whole house and put in a layer of foam board insulation and put the siding back on. That is NOT going to happen. The house is staying warmer and we are using about 20% less energy this winter. Bruce kept busy with various other projects as well, including rebuilding our leaning retaining wall.



Cin-D is doing well but slowing down even more, the walks are turning into more of a checking the pee-mail event then a search for rabbits and squirrels. That doesn't mean the sassy squirrel doesn't get chased up the tree now and then, so any tree rats reading this, take heed, she's still got it, just not as much nor as often.



Flashback 32 years ago!



**Here's' hoping you and yours have a wonderful 2011.
We expect ours will be a bit calmer!**