

Wishing you all the best for 2002...

You may have been waiting for the usual holiday greetings from Kim and Carolyn. Perhaps a little card with a nice photo of a cute puppy? Alas, Kim and Carolyn were just "too busy,"



never getting it together enough to wish their friends a happy holiday. So I decided to get off my little butt and help them out by writing this holiday letter. They've been good to me, so it seemed like the least I could do.

For those who don't know me, my name is Jane. I live with Kim and Carolyn. I'm 11 inches tall and very cute. By the time I get done telling you about my exciting year, you'll know me pretty well.

Last winter was a snowy one here in Carlisle, Massachusetts. We didn't see the ground here from mid-December to mid-April, which is extremely unusual. I spent a gorgeously clear New Year's Day 2001 snowshoeing and sledding with friends.

By mid-January, however, the snow had become considerably less exciting. I was ready for a change of scenery and a little warm weather, so I packed my bags and sneaked myself into Carolyn's luggage.



After a long flight, I found myself in Honolulu where I basked in the tropical weather and drank in gorgeous views of Diamond Head and the Pacific Ocean.



Once she realized I was a stowaway, Carolyn was pretty good-natured about it. She even took me to a dog show.



There were so many beautiful dogs there! I was glad to have my camera. I photographed the Best of Breed Sheltie, CH Foxglove Cinnabar Carrera, and met her owner, Nola Chock. I also had Carolyn take my picture with a champion Corgi I admired.





Carolyn and I returned to even more snow in Carlisle, including a huge storm in early March. By then, I was ready for another trip, so I jumped at the chance to drive cross-country with Kim to the American Shetland Sheepdog Association's national specialty show in Riverside, California. It was exhilarating to be on the open road, and we managed to do a lot of sightseeing on the way to California, driving a good part of the way on old Route 66. We visited the Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio, where I got to see the plane that served as Eisenhower's Air Force One. I shimmied up the handrail to get a closer look at the Presidential seal.

Once we arrived, it was a busy week of grooming, showing, and socializing. Kim, Carolyn, and Deb Jones picked up Penny's award for being one of the two top-producing dams for the year 2000. Penny is CH Malpsh Penny Serenade, ROM, and three of her kids finished their championships in 2000. The highlight of the week for me, though, was our day trip to Disneyland. I got my driver's license at Autopia, which meant I would be able to help Kim with the driving on the trip back to Massachusetts!



On our way home from the National, Kim and I made several stops. I love to be active — some people even call me an "action figure" — so I really enjoyed the chance to be outdoors enjoying the beautiful Southwest. I hiked along the rim of the Grand Canyon just after sunrise one morning. I



also spent a wonderful afternoon exploring Arches National Park near Moab, Utah.



In May, Kim and Carolyn had their first litter of the year. I'm too small to help out much with the adult dogs, but my friends and I are very good at socializing young puppies. I took this photo of my friend, Chow, who came over to help me babysit for the puppies when they were just a couple weeks old. He's a little nervous around babies, but I keep telling him this is good practice in case he ever has little plastic children of his own!



Kim and Carolyn had a lot of fun at the dog shows last spring. They finished two bitches in two months, which is very fast. One was a blue girl, Faith, who came from Canada and now lives here. Faith's registered name is CH Talar's Indigo Shadows. The other was Sienna, a homebred sable (CH Foxglove Ashburton Sienna), who won at two specialties on the way to her title. The photo on the left shows Sienna (with Kim) winning the Colonial Shetland Sheepdog Club Specialty.

Three more Foxglove-bred Shelties also finished in 2001: Nick, who lives with Jan Ibaraki in Hawaii; Charo, who lives with Don Combee in Atlanta; and Phoebe, who lives with Colleen Gentilcore in Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Congratulations to their owners, and thank you for helping to make Penny and Penny's daughter, Janey, top-producing dams for the year.

In July, my friend James Allen came up from Atlanta for a visit. He went to dog shows with Kim and Carolyn to compete in Junior Showmanship. He is a very good handler! James brought me some gifts, including genuine leather cowboy boots and a Twister game. I invited a bunch of my friends over to meet James, and, of course, we ended up playing Twister—all of us except James, that is. He claimed he was too big to play. Personally, I think he just doesn't like losing.



The fall was a sober season while we all absorbed and dealt with the terrorist attacks. Living through events like these made all of us here appreciate our lives, friends, and family even more.

December was snowless but happy. Kim stayed busy writing a tribute article about Penny and designing ads in her honor. The article and ads will appear in the March/April 2002 *Sheltie Pacesetter* magazine. Just before Christmas, Nancy, Philip, and Sarah Tappe came from Arkansas to visit and see the sights. On Christmas Day, we all drove down to Chinatown for a delicious dim sum brunch. Of course, Christmas also brought gifts; my favorites were two new wool sweaters.

I hope your 2001 was as happy and bountiful as mine. And here's to 2002!

Love, Jane