

Dragon Update

It's often difficult to get all the adventurers in one place at one time, but the adventures continue to run in parallel. In one group, our naive and unworldly crew got locked into a local cave full of goblins. Once these were vanquished they set out into the wide world and now seem to be getting mixed up into some sort

of royal intrigue. Meanwhile our hapless bunch of pirates... err sailors, have found the



treasure but are now surrounded by several aggressive looking ships. They also wonder about a nearby castle which looks decidedly full of gold, and undead.

Turkey Double Up

Despite attempting to maintain a low profile this year, the Altadena Duo found themselves at two Thanksgiving celebrations this

year. Although traveling on Turkey Day, Peter Lawson was determined to drink beer and eat turkey. This he did, though somewhat early. Later, and on the ap-



propriate day, Nils and Annette fed one and all, and as you can see by the photo, one and all ended well fed, warm and wet.

Sisters Reunited

Not to be out done by traveling daughter Kate, Pam and Paul finally managed to get to LA early this year. Disdaining Hawaii and the more popular travel spots they toured central Mexico, Texas, Colorado and a great deal of Los Angeles. The highlights included the Rose Parade, Lucky Baldwin's, and a somewhat dubious trip to the port in LA, where Sallie and Theo dealt with importation papers and bad navigation. Naturally they were also taken to Las Vegas and an IHOP.



Long Lost Looney Lands

All hope had gone for long lost friend Thomas, but as we should have expected, he appeared once more out of the blue (sea that is). Still working for Green Peace, and with the same healthy attitude, he arrived in LA ready to reaffirm and reestablish. When asked about fatherhood his comment was "He's smarter than any dog on the farm!" In a strange reflection



of how we all age, Thom is now part of the old guard at GP, a well respected radio officer, home builder, good husband, and a gentleman farmer.

Success, Amongst a Dubious Election

While the American voter has proved itself to be as smart as the Australian one, a local election to keep funding going for the local library was a big success. Over 75% of voters approved the proposition to continue the somewhat overpriced cost of \$45 a year to keep the library open. Local PAL member Sallie Cruise was asked about the result, and she was heard to say "I wonder about the several thousand Altadeans who



voted against a library". Basking in their post election victory, the local cognoscenti indulged in martinis (made to Theo's mother's recipe), ribs, salmon, and hot dogs.

Academy Awards Night

Reestablishing themselves as the "hosts with the most" Gordon and Kendra outdid themselves again this year with their celebration of all things important nowhere else other than L A . With a hired bartender, dueling big screen TVs, a gracious crowd and far too many bow ties, we all await with anticipation as to what they could possibly do next year.



Thirty Year Gap Destroyed

Without remarks on the family resemblance, two cousins met for the first time in thirty years in Paris, the place of their first meeting. One spoke little English and the other little French, but the Dutch language worked for both, if not for the spouses. Having found Paris much more palatable than in his youth, a return visit is planned for February 2005.



Astronomers Escape Scottish Conference

Glasgow, while a nice town, was found to be wanting in the "everything open all the time" department, so the traveling Altadean's grabbed Gerard and Stefanie and escaped the north to relax along the canals of northern England and experience Wales. On the way they found some large stone lego blocks, too much beer, fish and chips, and an amazing amount of hospitality.. The canal boat was voted the most relaxing holiday for one and all in some time. The English repast was preceded by ten days in Paris and followed by a few good days in London. Meanwhile Ger and Ster went to Germany for yet another conference.

