



**1996** started as a seamless continuation of the previous year: rain-water flowing down the living room wall, the fans running day in, day out, our belongings in boxes and piled up in the living room and the study. Meanwhile the contractor was going through a major depression and it took until the end of March to get rid of him. We were lucky to find a good painter who was able to patch up many of the mistakes.



In **April**, while the insurance took over the house for two weeks to repair the water damage, Yoko was glad to be sent for a one-week business to Tokyo. By adding a week of vacation in Osaka, she was able to stay clear of the repairs and upon her return found a house with refinished floors, cleaned curtains, and repainted walls.



Up to this **Spring**, everything in our house was painted in the same color: Biscuit. New variety makes the house more interesting. The colors are chosen using the Natural Color System. The walls are all of the same hue: yellow with 70% redness. The walls are lighter than the floors and the ceilings are designer base white. The exterior is a muted Stetson, the entrance and bathroom are a light Smokestain Rose, the study a vivid Monet Moonrise. A few of the living room walls have the ratios of red and yellow exchanged to add happiness (Meridian). The trim is in the complementary hue (Blue Puff) and the Botticelli of the main door is exactly in the middle.



**September** was time to travel again to Japan, where we visited Tohoku region: Morioka, Hirosaki, Akita, Sakata, Ginzan Hot Spring (where we met California-born Madam Jeanie who manages a traditional Japanese inn). The trip ended with a business stay in Maku-hari (Chiba Prefecture) where Giordano gave an invited talk on signal processing for color facsimile and

Tokyo for Yoko's business (Giordano attended at the digital photography conference). In Maku-hari we were pleased to learn that Giordano's previous work in color appearance modeling allowed the design of a new class of endoscopes.



In **March** the color facsimile project came to an end. With HP exiting the hard disk business; this caused some commotion in the Computer Peripherals Lab where Giordano works. For the year his weekdays consisted of 9am-8pm at work, 9pm-2am organize the Electronic Imaging conference or more work; the weekend consisted in working to finish the construction around the house.



It was also in **September** when Deanne finally left home for college. She chose the University of California, Santa Cruz. She has a corner room at her dorm where she can overlook the Ocean on a clear day. Nobody can leave without being impressed by the beauty of the campus which sits in the redwood forest overlooking the Pacific Ocean. There, she has survived her first quarter and is back home for the holiday break. She should be able tell pretty much what she wants to do with her life (we hope), by this time next year. Stay tuned.



In **November**, just about when Yoko had enough of the long hours and heavy workload of her new position during the year, the company announced a big reorganization. She is happy to report that the new assignment sounds very exciting because it will give her a lot more exposure to the business and first hand experience in account management. She feels energized enough with this change that she has signed up for an Italian class for the new year. It was also nice to receive a visit from her nephew who's studying at Univ. Texas, Austin and his new wife during the Thanksgiving Holiday. After 20 years of living in the US, Yoko braved to prepare (with a big help from friend Guy) her first turkey. Everybody was gracious enough to

