

## New appointment

This year, Basic Business Systems announced the appointment of Paige Clancey as Vice President of the company. Paige started with Basic in 1987 to develop the supplies sales part of the business and is presently

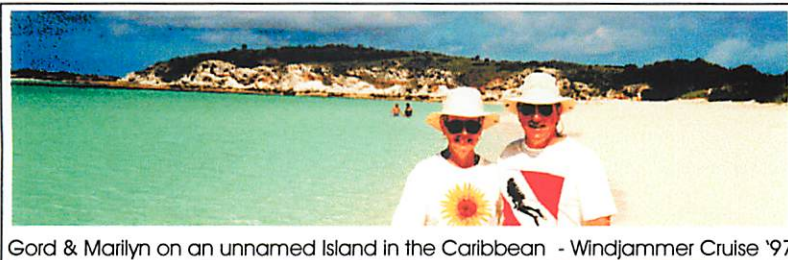


working as a Computer Network Specialist. She is joined as a director by another young colleague and, together, they are soon expected to oust the current President, Gordon Brow. Seizure-free for over a year now, Paige is enjoying excellent health and is now working on a plan to take some more maternity leave -- which will ensure Gordon's continued employment for some time to come!



### "Terrible twos"

Marilyn has been heard to say, "If I knew that grandchildren were going to be so much fun, I would have had them first!" Now 2 1/2, Ben is displaying all of the normal characteristics that make us wonder why parenthood was such a good idea in the first place. Having the Clancey family living less than a block away, however, ensures a speedy return to his Mom and Dad if he doesn't behave for Grandma.



Gord & Marilyn on an unnamed Island in the Caribbean - Windjammer Cruise '97

## Caribbean adventure ends in robbery

In October, Gord and Marilyn boarded the Amazing Grace for a two week bare-foot cruise in the Caribbean. Beginning at Port of Spain, Trinidad, they sailed North to Freeport, Grand Bahama, almost 3,000 miles from their original port. Along the way, they stopped at Grenada, St. Lucia, Iles De Saintes, Nevis, St. Barths, Virgin Gorda, Jost van Dyke, Dominican Republic, Great Inagua, Conception Island, Nassau, Berry Island and, finally, Freeport. Exploring the many islands of the Caribbean became part of daily routine. Many of them were uninhabited and declared parks but all had long, white sandy beaches, interrupted only by the odd nude sunbather. Gord spent many of these days snorkeling or SCUBA diving, while Marilyn enjoyed the beach. The passengers and crew were shocked one day as they witnessed Marilyn actually going in the water. "I got a new bathing suit" she explained, "the other one had a hole in the knee!"

The food was reported to have been excellent. Judging, however, from the volume of rum that had been consumed during Rum Swizzle Time -- a 5:PM pre-dinner ritual -- not many were in any condition to report on the quality of the food anyway.

Gord put on a splendid diving exhibition from the railing of the wheelhouse almost 40 feet above the water. Brushing up the old skills

took only a few dives and Capt'n Pete looked on as Gord hurled his aging bulk off the railing of the ship --- muscles, which had remained unused for some time, screaming all the way down. Next day, he was said to have spent a quiet morning trying to get out of bed. "I may be getting older" he said with a grimace, "but I'll never grow up." Capt'n Pete breathed a sigh of relief as he tucked a copy of his liability insurance back in the file.

T-shirts and shorts were the order of the day and footwear was not required. Passengers wishing to attend the Captain's dinner were requested to present themselves in a clean T-shirt. "The hell with laundry" said Gord, "I got four size XXL for ten bucks at the flea market in Virgin Gorda!" Clever but not foolproof --- they shrunk to XS.

On the last day of the vacation, after enjoying one last snorkel on a quiet beach at the East end of Grand Bahama Island, the Brow's and their friends carefully stowed their gear in the trunk of a rented car and proceeded to visit another part of the park. When they returned and opened the trunk, they discovered that all of the snorkel equipment had been stolen. Everyone had the good sense to carry their wallets and camera with them so the only thing that was lost was the time spent reporting the incident to the police. Everything stolen was covered by insurance.

## Career change for Clancey

The office equipment industry is still reeling from the news that Mitch Clancey has left the Copier business after eight years of service. Sources close to Mitch have revealed that he had not been happy with Danka since they had purchased Basic Business Systems, the copier company once owned by Gordon and Marilyn Brow. In a complete change of industries, he has found new sales opportunities with a John Deere dealership.



He has been encouraged on several occasions to demonstrate the product on the Brow's one acre of lawn but there is evidence that his enthusiasm is waning. "The word **usury**" comes to mind" he muses. The new job, however, has freed up a few more hours in the day and Ben's Rocking horse from last Christmas may even be finished before Santa Arrives!

## Four day Ketchikan cruise turns into "full meal deal"

A year in advance, the Browns arranged to accompany some long-time travel companions on a quick turn-around cruise to Alaska. As the May departure date approached, Gord was advised that the ship had been over booked. "If you would be willing to go two weeks later, we will send you for seven days for the same price." Sensing some hesitation, the travel agent added, "We will also move you to the top deck and include a cabin with a balcony." Giving the matter three or four seconds thought, Gord reluctantly agreed to the new arrangement --- which turned out to be six times the original value. The first stop was Skagway. Dressed warmly for the Alaskan weather, Gord and Marilyn were soon forced to shed their winter gear as the temperature soared past 81 degrees F. The bird watchers got all excited one day when one of them spotted a bird with a seven foot wingspan --- it turned out to be a mosquito! The weather co-operated in Sitka and Juneau but changed at Glacier Bay. From the comfort of their cabin's balcony, they watched glaciers calve as a light drizzle fell on the ship. Both marvelled that, after seven days of non-stop eating, they could still zip up their clothes.



This trip was followed in August by a seven day holiday with Paige, Mitch, and Ben. Cruising the Shuswap Lakes in a 40' houseboat with a 2 year old should not be attempted by the faint of heart! It was reported that the crew was close to mutiny after young Ben took over the controls as they headed for a beach on the first evening. We disembarked friends!



Getting away for a day of diving has been a passion since Gord got involved in the sport 10 years ago. This year has been an exceptional one. From diving with 6 gill sharks near Hornby Island in the Pacific to reef sharks near Freeport in the Caribbean, the year has been full of diving adventures. Sources close to Gord report that he as not yet made a move to pick up the golf clubs yet!